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The importance of this work, which it is well known Dr. Copinger has been engaged on for some considerable time, need hardly be urged at length, but the following short extract from his preface may be given:

"The FIRST PART deals with nearly 7000 books mentioned by Hain, but imperfectly or inaccurately collated; the SECOND consists of editions not enumerated or referred to by Hain. Here will be found noted the works specified in the publications referred to below, and not in Hain, besides about a thousand from other sources, making a total of nearly 6000 works not enumerated by Hain.

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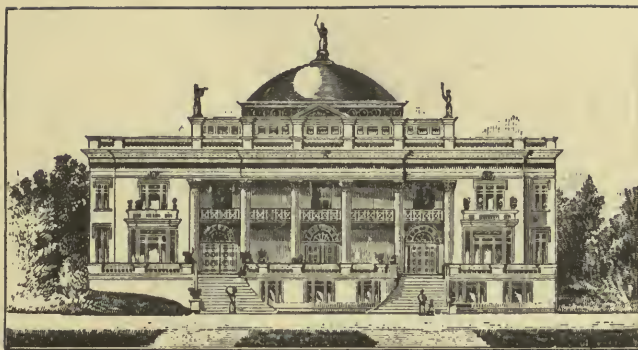
"The author has to thank Mr. F. Jenkinson, the Cambridge University librarian, for many collations, especially of works in the University Library, and for his invaluable aid in reading the proof-sheets. It would be impossible to define the extent of his generous assistance. He also has to thank Dr. Young, of the Hunterian Library, Glasgow, for allowing his descriptions of fifteenth-century books in that library to be used in the latter portion of Part I., while Dr. Konrad Burger is most kindly preparing the Index under printers and presses on the lines of his well-known index to Hain, and will, as Part II. passes through the press, insert therein additions from his own vast store."

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 21.

JANUARY, 1896.

No. 1

THE year 1895 has been one of good result in library progress. The event of the year has been the provision for a great public library in the metropolis by the consolidation of the Tilden Fund with the Astor and Lenox libraries, and the appointment of John S. Billings to the post of librarian has made sure that the library will be adequately and broadly administered. The Boston Public Library has been "at home" for some months in its new building, the finest house for books in this country, if not in the world. The new Carnegie library at Pittsburg, opened in November last, marks the largest gift for library purposes during the year. The organization of a new bureau at Washington for the handling of public documents, by Superintendent Crandall, appointed under the new law, marks a step forward in that work. The only unpleasant features of the year have been the investigation into the financial affairs of the Library of Congress, and the continuing tendency at Washington and at some state capitals to mix politics with library positions, a tendency against which the library associations are now doing good service. Library commissions have been organized in Vermont and Wisconsin, and the Massachusetts commission has nearly "rounded up" the first part of its work, since it can now report that out of the 352 towns in Massachusetts, but 25 are without free libraries. Library associations have been organized this year in Vermont, Ohio, Indiana, Nebraska, and Central California, so that there is now an unbroken chain of state library associations from the Atlantic to the Rocky Mountains. In addition to the successful A. L. A. conference at Denver, the women's meeting at Atlanta, and the L. A. U. K. conference at Cardiff, there has been an international bibliographical conference at Brussels to promote uniformity in classification and methods, in which a number of continental librarians participated. Bibliographically, the year has been very fruitful, covering the completion of the great medical bibliography of the Surgeon-General's Library, by Dr. Billings, the issue of a first part of the "American Catalogue," 1890-95, and an unusual amount of good work from the Publishing Section of the A. L. A., especially

the extremely useful "evaluation" work of Mr. Iles, whose full scope is hidden by the too limited title of "Books for girls and women," and the helpful "List of subject-headings" edited by Mr. Gardner M. Jones. Truly the year 1895 has been one of goodly harvesting.

THE Denver Conference, whose proceedings constituted the December issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, was a thorough success, and has had pleasant after-results in the eastern journey of the new officers of the A. L. A., Mr. Dana, Miss West, and Mr. Elmendorf, a happy thought which has had very stimulating effects. The most novel and interesting conference of the year was that at Atlanta, of which a report is given in this number, in connection with the several congresses at the Cotton States Exposition. This, though scarcely a success in numbers, promises to be most valuable in its results for the future. The program was admirably planned by Miss Wallace, who has shown herself a pioneer in the South of the best library spirit, and the several papers constituted so thorough and excellent a guide for librarians in the South, that at the suggestion of some of the library representatives at the conference, Commissioner Harris has wisely decided to issue them as a pamphlet of the Bureau of Education. The South is to be especially congratulated in having so representative a library as the Young Men's Library of Atlanta at the front in library progress. The suggestion has been made that the A. L. A. Conference of 1898 be held at Atlanta, and this proposition will come before the Cleveland Conference with the hearty support of those librarians who visited Atlanta.

MEANTIME preparations for the Cleveland Conference of 1896 are being arranged with unusual promptness, and everything points to one of the largest and most representative conferences at this convenient center which the A. L. A. has ever held. That conference will be the more interesting if 1897 is to be given over to the European trip, as the report elsewhere indicates. Nothing could better broaden the view of American librarians, nothing be of more pleasant in-

fluence on the English association, than such a trip. A score of representative American librarians made a trip to Europe in 1877 as representatives of the newly formed American Library Association, to attend the first London Conference, and the L. A. U. K., which is in this sense a child of the A. L. A., has for years desired to welcome its parent on English soil. It is peculiarly fitting that the second visit should be made 20 years after, as the child comes of age. There is a great deal to learn from English libraries, aside from the delight of visiting the venerable edifices, such as the Bodleian Library, in which books have been housed for centuries, and the historical collections which the centuries have accumulated there, and we trust that nothing may intervene to prevent the journey to visit our kin across sea.

AND this is a good place to say that in such a misunderstanding as has recently arisen between the mother-country and our own, librarians should be apostles of peace, and should not hesitate to use their influence for peace and goodwill among the nations. The two countries are in no respect knit together more strongly than in their relations as co-heirs of one literature and users of one mother-tongue. It seems to be true that the rising generation has been led to thoughts of war by the very warlike juvenile literature which authors on both sides the water have been writing for some years, so that possibly librarians have unwittingly some sins to answer for which may now have atonement. The international visits of Americans and Englishmen have done much to cause a better understanding between the two peoples, and the visit of the American Library Association to England—to be reciprocated, we hope, in due time—would certainly do much toward the strengthening of this happy relation.

THE appointment of Dr. John S. Billings as the head of the New York Free Public Library which is to be, is an excellent example of the best kind of good sense. The appointment is an ideal one. Dr. Billings will be accepted everywhere, the world over, as the right man in the right place. He is not so much a technical librarian as a general executive, as is shown both by his masterly handling of the great catalog of the Surgeon-General's Library, which he has edited, by his planning and editorial oversight of the *Index Medicus*, and by the wonderful scope and the effectiveness of his

general work, all of which prove him to be an administrator and executive of the first rank. His varied work has caused his name to be known in almost all civilized countries, and he has always been a welcome, prominent, and effective member of the many international conferences which he has attended. The library profession may expect the best results from Dr. Billings, now that he is given, after his years of experience, an opportunity to show himself at his best, with resources at his command such as few library executives have had; and the reading public of New York, the library profession, and the trustees of the Tilden, Astor, and Lenox foundations are equally to be congratulated.

ONE of the most interesting documents of the past year is the special report presented by Mr. Spofford last month as to the reorganization of the Congressional Library in its new home. Mr. Spofford makes this interesting document incidentally the defence of his record in the library. He is quite right in pointing out that few librarians, if any, have had such a complication of work put upon their shoulders with such inadequate force and resources. But unfortunately in this defence he makes in his mixing up of cause and effect, full confession of what is the real fault. Mr. Spofford, as every one knows who has visited Washington, or has had relations with the Copyright office or the Congressional Library, has undertaken to do personally what it would require half a dozen men to do, instead of recognizing that his position was that of an executive, who should do as little as possible himself. His schedule of what he has tried to do is the most serious confession of incapacity as an executive which we have seen. As a result of all this, he has failed to get or to keep as assistants able men, who are capable lieutenants and have the power of handling subordinate staffs. The lack of this executive faculty has done much to embarrass Mr. Spofford throughout his career. It is understood that he will be relieved in the future by the appointment of a separate copyright officer, as he himself recommends, and it would probably be desirable also that he should be relieved in great part of the difficult and herculean task of removing the books to the new building and rearranging them under proper classification. It might be desirable, in fact, to divide the work of the Library of Congress between a librarian and a superintendent, as is done in some other libraries.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL AND LIBRARY ORGANIZATION: A TWENTY YEARS' RETROSPECT.

BY R. R. BOWKER.

THE history of modern library organization begins with the first issue of the AMERICAN LIBRARY JOURNAL and the first meeting of the American Library Association, and the publication also of the Government report on public libraries, all in 1876. Now that this association has become in this country a national institution, ramifying by state associations and local clubs into states and cities throughout the Union, and has led to the development of library organizations and periodicals in other countries, it is worth while, perhaps, at the close of twenty years and at the opening of the twenty-first volume of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, to trace briefly the history and development of the several elements which have co-operated toward the results of to-day. It should be said in the beginning that the LIBRARY JOURNAL led to the organization of the American Library Association, and not the contrary, as is usually stated.

The idea of the LIBRARY JOURNAL had started and taken root in two places simultaneously. Mr. Frederick Leypoldt had been much interested in library development, and during my association with him in the early days of the *Publishers' weekly*, we had talked over some adequate representation in periodical literature of the library interest. Meanwhile, Mr. Melvil Dewey, then in Boston, who while a student at Amherst College and a post-graduate assistant in its library, had worked out the remarkable system of decimal classification—all the more remarkable as coming from a college student—which is so associated with his name, had conceived a similar idea of starting a library periodical.

The first germ of the idea had already taken shape in the department of "Library notes" in the *Publishers' weekly*, which resulted in a conference in May, 1876, between Mr. Leypoldt, Mr. Dewey, and myself at the editorial rooms of the *Publishers' weekly*, then in the old Potter building, at 37 Park Row, New York, afterward destroyed by fire. During the conversation about the starting of the LIBRARY JOURNAL a suggestion was made that it would be well to make its first work the promotion of a library

association of some kind. I recall writing at that office a circular letter to leading librarians asking their co-operation for that purpose, and telegraphing to Dr. Poole and other distant librarians, inviting their help.

The idea of an organization came partly from the library conference held in New York by leading American librarians in 1853, and partly from the success of the recently formed American Book Trade Association, which had been organized in 1875 at Niagara, and was to hold its second conference at Philadelphia in 1876. Both these organizations lacked the energy and enthusiasm of a Melvil Dewey to carry them through to permanent success, and so came to naught.

The suggestion for a conference of librarians met in general with cordial response, though Dr. Poole, in Chicago, having an alert suspicion of any one connected with the book trade, as Mr. Leypoldt and I were incidentally, and knowing at that time nothing of Mr. Dewey, was rather shy of being trapped into a movement which he did not quite understand, and wrote first to some Eastern librarians to know what manner of people these were. The Commissioner of Education, John Eaton, showed hearty sympathy; a committee to arrange for the conference was organized by Mr. Dewey, as secretary, consisting of Justin Winsor, W. F. Poole, and Lloyd P. Smith, names which at once commanded library respect; and the conference met at Philadelphia, during the Centennial Exposition, Wednesday morning, October 4, 1876.

Meanwhile the first number of the AMERICAN LIBRARY JOURNAL had been in preparation, and Volume 1, Number 1, under the date of September 30, 1876, was ready just in time to have its first copies distributed at the conference. The contents of that first number were curiously prophetic of the work in which it was afterward to co-operate. Justin Winsor, the first president of the American Library Association, held the place of honor with "A Word to Starters of Libraries." Mr. Cutter suggested the universal character of the work by an article on "The Franklin Society of Paris,"

and Mr. Dewey—always with two words to every one else's one—had two articles, one on "The Profession" and one on "Public Documents." "The Government Library Report" was reviewed and summarized from advance sheets by L. E. Jones. The editorial department, to which, if I remember rightly, Mr. Dewey and myself were the contributors, outlined the plan of the LIBRARY JOURNAL; made announcement of the Conference; summarized the Government report; advocated a museum of comparative bibliography; suggested a plan for the Co-operative Index to Periodicals, which first took shape as a supplement to the JOURNAL and afterward became an annual publication; and advocated uniform title slips from publishers. The original editors—though one says it who should not—may fairly claim credit for covering the world and the future with their initial products. For the first volume Mr. Dewey was managing editor, Mr. Cutter and Mr. Whitney had charge respectively of the departments of Bibliography and of Pseudonyms and Anonyms, and I was general editor, though it had not been the intention at the start that I should take a responsibility additional to that connected with the *Publishers' weekly* and with other journalistic and literary obligations, and my name did not appear until the volume title-page was printed. I believe Mr. Dewey and I never settled which was the superior editorship. The list of associate editors printed on the title-page throughout the first volume, comprised twenty-one of the foremost representatives of the library interest, from Boston to San Francisco, but most of them took no part whatever in the actual work of the JOURNAL and only a few were practically available as contributors. Of the twenty-one only eight are now known to be actually engaged in library work, and the presence and help of Abbot, Brevoort, Guild, Homes, Noyes, Poole, Lloyd P. Smith, and Vinton are no longer with us. At the start everybody queried how enough matter could be found on library subjects to fill a periodical from month to month; although the editors have once or twice in the lapse of years been somewhat put to it to fill the month's number, it has nevertheless proved that librarians had sufficient to say to fill 400 to 500 pages a year now for these twenty years.

At the close of the first volume (August, 1877), the JOURNAL having really become international in its scope, the limiting word AMER-

ICAN was dropped, and the title-page of V. 1, and of the succeeding monthly issues, bore the name LIBRARY JOURNAL only, as the "Official organ of the Library Associations of America and of the United Kingdom." Mr. E. B. Nicholson, then of the London Institution, afterward Bodleian Librarian at Oxford, was the English corresponding editor. V. 2, September, 1877, to February, 1878, was given up chiefly to the report of the New York Conference (S. no.), a college number (O. no.), and the reports of the London Conference in two double numbers (N.-D., '77, Ja-F. '78), and on the November title-page, several leading London librarians appeared among the associate editors. V. 3 covered March to December, 1877. With V. 4, 1878, the volumes were made to correspond with the calendar year, and on the July number and the yearly title-page appeared the name of Mr. H. R. Tedder, librarian of the Athenæum Club, London, as general European editor.

The first Conference of the American Library Association at Philadelphia (1876) was followed by others in New York (1877), in which year was also the London International Conference; Boston (1879); Washington and Baltimore (1881)—1880 being omitted; Cincinnati (1882); Buffalo (1883); Lake George (1885)—1884 being omitted; Milwaukee (1886); Thousand Islands (1887); Catskills (1888); St. Louis (1889)—with post-conference trip to New Orleans and the South; White Mountains (1890); San Francisco (1891); Lakewood, with Baltimore and Washington (1892); Chicago—the World's Congress of Librarians (1893); Adirondacks (1894); and Denver (1895). It is unnecessary to do more than remind the profession of the great wealth of information and experience in the papers and proceedings of these conferences, and the fund of recreation which they have afforded.

But a great part of the influence of the A. L. A. has shown itself in the organization of local associations or clubs, meeting more frequently. The New York Library Club, the pioneer local organization, was started in 1885, since when several local clubs have also been organized, as in Chicago (1892) and Washington (1894), and no less than 17 states have now state organizations: Massachusetts (organized in 1891), in which is practically included Rhode Island; New Hampshire (1890); Vermont (1895); Connecticut (1891); New York (1890); New Jersey (1891); Pennsylvania (1892); Ohio (1895); Indiana (1895); Illinois (1890); Michigan (1891); Wisconsin (1890); Iowa (1891); Minnesota (1891); Colorado

(1893); Nebraska (1895); and California, which has two associations, one for Southern California (1891) and one for Central California (1895).

The modern library spirit has also had remarkable development in the work of the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, the result of which is that but 25 out of the 352 towns of that state are now without free libraries, and in the like commissions in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Wisconsin. The library work, even more extensive, of the Board of Regents of the State of New York, under Mr. Dewey as secretary, including its feature of travelling libraries, has likewise borne fruit in other states.

Our English brethren were not slow to take a hint from the American Conference, and Mr. E. B. Nicholson, librarian of the London Institution, sent out in July, 1877, a circular letter inviting English librarians to meet at a conference in London. A party of American librarians, including Mr. Winsor, Mr. Cutter, Dr. Poole, Mr. Guild, Mr. Dewey, Miss Godfrey (afterward Mrs. Dewey), and others, 22 in all, made a missionary visit to London in response to an invitation to the A. L. A. to be represented at the conference, and were most hospitably received, being included among the officers of the conference, and otherwise treated most pleasantly. The conference of 1877 was in fact known as the International Library Conference, and was opened Oct. 5, 1877, just a year and a day after the American Conference, at the London Institution, under the presidency of Mr. J. Winter Jones, principal librarian of the British Museum, and thus head of the English library profession. The "Library Association of the United Kingdom," then organized, has been a thorough success. It has since held conferences at Oxford (1878); Manchester (1879); Edinburgh (1880); London (1881); Cambridge (1882); Liverpool (1883); Dublin (1884); Plymouth (1885); London (1886); Birmingham (1887); Glasgow (1888); London (1889); Reading (1890); Nottingham (1891); Paris (1892); Aberdeen (1893); Belfast (1894); and Cardiff (1895).

The association issued in 1893, and again in 1895, a Library Association Year-book, edited by Mr. J. Y. X. MacAlister, its honorary secretary, containing its constitution, a list of members, a syllabus of examinations for library assistants (held half-yearly in June and December); the schedule for the Summer School for students of librarianship; recent Acts of Parliament affect-

ing public libraries; a bibliography of the papers presented at conferences and other meetings; a list of the principal libraries of the United Kingdom and other valuable features.

From January, 1880, to December, 1883, it issued the four volumes of its modest *Monthly notes*, which was succeeded, 1884-88, by the five volumes of *The Library Chronicle*, rather intermittently issued by Mr. E. C. Thomas, then one of its secretaries. Since 1889, its successor, *The Library*, has been edited by Mr. MacAlister, and is still happily continued. The Transactions were separately published, 1887 to 1889, and the Proceedings for 1885, and 1892 to 1894, those for the other years being given in the periodicals above named. It has also issued a Public Library Manual and a Library Association Series of six useful library handbooks on special subjects.

One of the best acts of the 1876 Conference was the appointment of a Co-operation Committee, consisting of Mr. Cutter, Mr. F. B. Perkins, and Mr. F. Jackson, which in the JOURNAL for April, May, June, and July, 1877, made four extremely valuable reports on uniform methods. Mr. Dewey, under the auspices of this committee, began in 1877 to provide for the furnishing of library supplies, as announced in the advertising pages of the JOURNAL of May, 1877. With 1878 this enterprise took the name of the Supply Department for the American Library Association, and afterwards that of the Readers' and Writers' Economy Co. This was the origin of the Library Bureau, which with the benefit of Mr. Dewey's fertile ingenuity and keen appreciation of library needs, became at once a most important factor in library progress. The enterprise had business difficulties in 1888, but a compromise and reorganization put it on its feet again, and it has since, as is well known, developed into an important commercial enterprise, under the business administration developed under charge of Mr. H. E. Davidson and his associate, Mr. W. E. Parker. It is an interesting fact that the library business of the Bureau is now less than one-fourth of his total business, since insurance companies, savings banks, etc., have largely availed themselves of library methods, and the Bureau has now branch offices in New York, Chicago, and London, in addition to its headquarters in Boston.

Among the other enterprises originating in the centennial year was the American Catalogue of books in print and for sale in 1876,

which was Frederick Leypoldt's most important enterprise, and which remains his most enduring monument. Working with insufficient capital, and with the training of a bibliographer rather than of a business executive, Mr. Leypoldt was considerably embarrassed by the accruing expense of this enterprise, which involved an expenditure of \$27,600, made more serious by delays in the publication, against which he found it impossible to safeguard himself. Accordingly with 1879 the present writer made an arrangement with Mr. Leypoldt, for taking over the *Publishers' weekly* at a purchase price which should give him needed capital for what had come to be his heart's enterprise, under an arrangement which freed him almost entirely for that work and contemplated repurchase by him on its completion. In 1880 the present writer had occasion to take up his abode in London, as the representative of Harper & Bros. and with the especial purpose of starting there the English edition of *Harper's Magazine*, a residence which continued from July, 1880, to September, 1882. The LIBRARY JOURNAL was still so much of a burden, and made so serious an inroad upon the resources of the office—none too large at best—that Mr. Leypoldt was advised to discontinue the enterprise, and an announcement to that effect was made in its columns, under proper arrangements for making good to its subscribers the balance of their subscriptions.

The LIBRARY JOURNAL had unfortunately been handicapped in its early volumes by an arrangement as to which a frank word may be said. It was expected by Mr. Leypoldt and myself, and intended by Mr. Dewey, that the latter should take the burden of promoting the enterprise, and an arrangement was made by which he was to have as compensation one-fifth of the gross returns. The roseate hopes for the pecuniary success of the JOURNAL did not materialize. The gross returns were considerably less than the gross expenses, and the double tithe which was payable to Mr. Dewey resulted in a loss shown on the books the first year of over \$2000. A good deal more business responsibility fell on Mr. Leypoldt's shoulders and a good deal more editorial work on my own than any of us had expected—without compensation to either of us—the difficulty then as thereafter being particularly in getting the material on time. This unfortunate pecuniary complication was modified later by an arrangement for a kind of rebate by Mr. Dewey, but the final result after three years was an unfortunate misunderstanding

ing which was not altogether straightened out until some time after the lamented and premature death of the man who had carried burdens until his strength was no longer sufficient for the work laid upon him.

Soon after I reached London, the L. A. U. K. held its conference in Edinburgh, and it was a great pleasure to me to be invited to attend the meetings. At the moment when I entered the room in the University of Edinburgh where the conference was in session, I was astonished to hear the secretary reading a post-card from Dr. Poole, making the charge that Mr. Leypoldt and myself had practically betrayed the Library Association, and committed an outrage upon JOURNAL subscribers by discontinuing the publication. I felt obliged to introduce myself immediately by asking opportunity to make a frank and full statement on the subject, which was so well received that I think this unkind and unjustifiable introduction of me to English librarians was more than offset by the very warm and friendly welcome which my explanation obtained for me.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Leypoldt's heart was so much with all his bibliographical children that, after announcing the discontinuance of the JOURNAL, he decided, against his financial interest, to continue the publication, although it was years afterward before the JOURNAL earned a position in which both ends met. He also undertook the burden of my own editorial relations in the JOURNAL, and with 1881, Mr. Cutter succeeded Mr. Dewey as the other general editor. Mr. Dewey, in 1886, started his *Library Notes*, at first as a monthly, afterward making it a desultory publication of specialized issues, now in its fifth volume.

It should be stated here that the JOURNAL never received any financial help from the Association beyond the few pages of advertising from the Co-operation Committee, before the Library Bureau became a special enterprise, and in later years the loan of the type set for the Conference proceedings for the issue of a regular number of the JOURNAL containing the Proceedings.

When I returned from Europe in 1882 it was not my intention to resume active relations with the office, but the sudden death of Mr. Leypoldt, in March, 1884, almost the direct result of his self-sacrifice in his bibliographical undertakings, necessitated a change of plan. Since that date the JOURNAL has been under my own editorial supervision, at the New York office,

though my name has appeared only in 1887-89. Mr. Cutter carried his bibliographical editorship almost without gap till his own absence in Europe, that is, till 1893; and from 1890 to 1893 inclusive, Mr. Paul Leicester Ford was associated with him as an editor. Difficulties in having part of the editorial relations away from New York, requiring much of the editing to be done by the office force, finally led to the concentration of the work within the office, and I take this occasion to express thanks and appreciation for the valuable work done in the past few years by Miss Helen E. Haines, as chief editorial assistant on the JOURNAL, after training herself in the office routine without the advantage of direct library equipment.

Quite apart from the LIBRARY JOURNAL, a most valuable feature of library publication has been the work of the Publishing Section of the A. L. A. The continuing of "Poole's Index," though prompted by the A. L. A., was started in advance of the organization of the Publishing Section, which began in 1886. Its most important work is "The A. L. A. Index to General Literature," or essay-index, edited by W. I. Fletcher, its first chairman. This was followed by the valuable catalog of "Reading for the Young," and, in the year past, which has been notable for bibliographies, by the "List of Books for Girls and Women and their Clubs," in separate parts as well as in one large volume, and the "List of Subject-headings for use in a dictionary catalogue."

A review of library development would not be complete without reference to the library schools and classes. When Mr. Dewey, in 1883, came to Columbia College he outlined, with the co-operation of President Barnard, as a part of the university work of that institution, the Library School, which, started with 1887, later went with Mr. Dewey to become part of the State Library system. This example has been followed by the organization of the library schools of the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, of the Los Angeles Public Library, of the Drexel Institute, Phila., of the Armour Institute, Chicago, and of the Denver Public Library; and by the Summer School of Library Economy, conducted at Amherst by Mr. Fletcher, and other classes or lectures started elsewhere in the country. The remarkable success of these schools is shown by the fact that their graduates are seldom without positions.

The example set in America and followed in England has borne good fruit also in Continental countries. France, aside from the Société Franklin, for the propagation of popular libraries, organized in the middle of the century and bearing the name of our American philosopher, has no distinctive library organization, nor has it any library periodical proper, unless the *Bulletin des librairies et des archives* issued by the Ministry of the Interior and that of the Bibliothèque nationale are so considered. Germany is yet without a national library association, although there has been agitation of the subject, especially since our World's Congress at Chicago, but a *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* has been issued since 1881, by Harrasowitz, Leipzig, under the editorship of Dr. O. Hartwig, and is understood to have some support from a governmental subsidy. Italy has had at Milan a library training class, and has its *Rivista della biblioteche*, published monthly at Turin under the direction of Dr. G. Biagi. Thus has the modest acorn grown into the international oak.

The LIBRARY JOURNAL, it may be said in conclusion, is part of the bibliographical system centred in the office of the *Publishers' weekly*. The LIBRARY JOURNAL was first supplemented by the quarterly Index to periodicals, which afterwards became the "Annual Index to periodicals," now merged in the "Annual literary index," which besides its continuation of "Poole's index" includes other bibliographical features. The foundation of American bibliography is the weekly record in the *Publishers' weekly*, with its full title entries according to the rules of the A. L. A., with descriptive annotations, and the monthly and yearly dictionary list of all books recorded. This dictionary catalogue also makes up the index to the "Annual American Catalogue." Each five years this is again organized into the "American Catalogue," now in three successive volumes, supplementing the great work of Mr. F. Leypoldt, the "American Catalogue" of 1876. These, with other issues, make up a general scheme of bibliography which is perhaps not altogether paralleled by the current bibliography of any other nation. This entire system had its origin in the pioneer work of Frederick Leypoldt a quarter of a century ago. It is interesting in making this retrospect to note how much has been accomplished, in the short period of library co-operation, within the memory of men of middle age.

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION OF MASSACHUSETTS.*

BY HENRY S. NOURSE, *South Lancaster.*

THE Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts has recently completed the fifth year of actual work. When the law of 1890 creating the commission was enacted, it was judged by many to be a dubious experiment. Some even stigmatized it as a step in the wrong direction — another move toward socialistic paternalism. But the opponents of the law have had to confess that whatever of grandmotherliness there may have been in it is not of a gross type, since the bounty of one hundred dollars' worth of books promised by the state to any town for the first time establishing a free library is entirely contingent upon initiative action by the town — an appropriation and promise of perpetual support made by a regular town meeting. Now the New England town meeting is a very conservative body when dollars and cents are concerned, and especially when a majority of the voters is of the old colonial stock, as is always the case in the country outside of the manufacturing villages. Moreover, the opponents of the measure could not blame the mechanism of persuasion as expensive, for the five commissioners serve without compensation or possible perquisite. The board does not even employ a clerk, although authorized to do so.

When we first met for consultation about our duties as a commission our faces wore an air of becoming humility, for although hopeful of serving some useful end we could not but recognize the fact that, theoretically, we were merely an inexpensive and almost powerless committee of solicitation. Not that we desired it should be otherwise. The simplicity of the law pleased us, and we believed it well suited to the independent spirit of New England life. We think so now. We have never sought to have a single clause of the law excised or amended, nor asked that a syllable should be added to it. We believed thoroughly in the paramount value of a free initiative, and every year's experience has confirmed and strengthened that belief. The town, like the individual, prizes most, and derives most benefit, from that which it has bought and paid for, labored and fought for,

and which it manages wholly as its own. This is just as true of the public library as it is of any other human property, or of liberty itself.

After organization we entered upon a thorough investigation of library conditions throughout the commonwealth. This difficult work was facilitated by the statistics collected by the State Board of Education. We then put ourselves in communication with the municipalities by means of a two-page circular, which included a copy of the new law, announced our legal birth as a commission, set forth the reasons for and purposes of our creation as such, gave some rose-colored but truthful views of the advantages to the town of a free library, and stated our individual and collective anxiety to be useful and especially benevolent at the expense of the state treasury. Thereupon a great surprise awaited us. We at once found ourselves riding upon the topmost wave of a tide of popularity. The free public library movement thus inaugurated by Massachusetts speedily received very flattering commendation from the leading journals and periodicals wherever the American language is spoken, even in conservative and self-satisfied England. Almost before the commission had got into working order, letters came from neighboring states asking how the new law was working. Missives soon came from nearly every state in the Union, from most of the nations of Europe, and from far-away Australia, asking for copies of the law, for reports, for plans and specifications of everything relating to library work. It seemed as though a new microbe had been evolved — a library bacillus generated under the gilded dome of the Massachusetts state-house, whose progeny had been wafted on the wings of the wind to the uttermost parts of the world to ferment and excite among all civilized peoples a craving for library privileges. New Hampshire at once adopted, with slight modifications, the Massachusetts law. New York followed with more complex legislation, presumably adapted to her more complex conditions. Connecticut placed upon her statute-book a comprehensive and somewhat paternal library act. Maine and Vermont enacted new library laws. Wisconsin now proclaims herself the pioneer of the Great West in library legisla-

* Address, January 10, 1896, before the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club.

tion. New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Montana are struggling with the new ideas, and it requires no great gift of prophecy to foretell that in the fulness of time state after state will come into line with New York and New England, proclaiming that the free public library must be a co-ordinate of the free public school system throughout the Republic.

By a study of the existing conditions in 1890 the commission found that of 352 municipalities composing the commonwealth less than one-third—or to be exact, 103 towns—were without free public libraries. A free public library by the definition of the commission means one whose volumes are not only accessible to the public, but can be taken home for study or perusal. These 103 towns were not bookless. Far from it. One of them has an incorporated library of 10,000 volumes, and hardly a town but had one or more association libraries well patronized. But the use of their literary treasures was restricted to those paying an annual subscription or a fee for the loan of books; and a fee, though of the smallest, shuts the door of the library as securely as though it were that of a burglar-proof vault against the very class of the community which most needs the civilizing influences of books—that class whose ignorance is an ever-present menace to society. The 103 towns lacking free libraries were for the most part fishing and farming communities with small valuation and a high tax rate; such as each successive census proclaimed decadent in population and prosperity. The total population of these towns was 131,000, being less than six per cent. of the total population of the state. Our statistics proved that Massachusetts even then was far and away ahead of all the states of the world in the generous library privileges open to all her people. Five years have passed and I am proud to be able to boast that there are now but 25 towns within the borders of the old Bay State which do not possess a free public library; and two of the 25 have full legal privilege in the free libraries of adjoining towns—Newbury in that of the city of Newburyport, with which it is closely connected by street railway, and Washington in that of the town of Becket. Another, Nantucket, has an incorporated library of 10,000 volumes, and in the remaining 22 are associated libraries possessing 25,000 volumes used by a large majority of their citizens. The population of these towns is about 41,000, or only one and six-tenths per cent. of the 2,500,000 that call Massachusetts home. Most

of these 25 towns would long ago have accepted the library act but for the jealousies of rival villages, or the selfish conservatism displayed by the proprietors of association libraries.

I have spoken of one surprise; we soon met with a second. We were astonished to find among the very first towns to accept the library act and vote to establish a free library many of the smallest and most tax-burdened in the list. Four or five examples may serve to show the nature of the problems we had to solve, and how some plucky little communities made light of obstacles, which to other richer and more populous, but also more drowsy, neighborhoods seem quite insurmountable: The first application for one hundred dollars' worth of books came from Mashpee. This is a fishing village on the Barnstable coast, with less than 300 inhabitants and a valuation of \$170,000. The brave fishermen of Mashpee, by their high cheek-bones and their complexions of the color of a colonial penny, show that they belong to an Algonquin club much more ancient and perhaps as truly aristocratic as that which has its sumptuous headquarters on Commonwealth avenue in Boston. And the maidens and matrons of Mashpee if they founded a woman's club would appropriately style it the "Society of Aboriginal Dames," for nearly all of the denizens of Mashpee are lineal descendants from the people—so-called savages—who owned all Massachusetts before the Pilgrim and the Puritan came, bringing to them the civilizing influences of the Bible, gunpowder, rum, and the whipping-post. Was it not historically and poetically fitting that the first little library sent out from the state's bounty should go to the only living descendants of the brethren of Massasoit?

Another of the early towns was Peru. On the summit of one of the Berkshire hills there stood in 1891 an old meeting-house, weather-beaten by the storms of a hundred years. This old meeting-house was the centre of gravity of the town of Peru. It was so poised on the crest of the Green Mountain range that the rain-drops which chased each other down the western slope of its roof found their way to the Sound through the Housatonic river; while those which dripped from the eastern eaves sought the sea by the Connecticut valley. The whole aggregation of sheep-pastures, forests, farms, houses, and barns in Peru stood on the assessor's books at a valuation of \$120,000, and the tax-rate was \$22.50 upon \$1000. The inhabitants numbered 305, but there were no mummies among them. They

knew that a new mile-stone had been set up on the march of progress, and they voted to support a free library. When they received the books from the state they placed them in one end of the old meeting-house where, as they would say, the people could examine them "after meeting on the Sabbath" and take home what they wanted. About a year ago the old church building was consumed by fire with all its contents—although some of the books were saved because out in the farmers' families doing missionary work. Friends have helped the Peruvians to rebuild their meeting-house, and the commission hopes to prevail upon the legislature to give them another library as a reward of what we Yankees call "spunk."

Another wide-awake little town was Mount Washington, which forms the southwestern corner of the state. It is a farming town strictly. Its agricultural products are sheep and scenery. The farmers of Mount Washington can boast that they raise more scenery to the acre than any other town in Massachusetts. The farms are all set upon edge, and for many years the farmers' sons and daughters have been sliding off into New York and Connecticut, and wherever their slide ended there you may be sure the general average of humanity was elevated by their hardihood, sturdy common sense, and other mountain-bred characteristics. There are but 150 inhabitants in Mount Washington, and the town-meeting that accepted the library act could not have been a very tumultuous assemblage, for there are only 34 voters all told. Last summer one of the wise men of the East climbed up into Mount Washington to spend his vacation, and one day wanting a book he said to his host, "I suppose in so sparsely settled a region there is no library within many miles?" "Oh, yes there is," was the reply, "we've got a good one, given us by the state. We are very proud of it. I'll take you to it." So they drove among the hills until they came to a farmhouse, where they got a big door-key. Then they went on a mile further, without meeting a soul or seeing a dwelling, and came to the town's only meeting-house, in which they found the library of 250 volumes.

I might tell of many other hard problems solved and unsolved; of the successful persuasion of Hancock, a town 16 miles long and two miles wide, with a single thoroughfare running the whole length, and a population of 500; of Windsor, with 600 inhabitants divided among three villages, which are so placed as to form

a triangle four miles from each other. The Windsor problem was solved by three young men, volunteer librarians, who divided the collection of volumes into three equal parts, one for each village, and propose to exchange with each other at appropriate intervals. Such examples—and they are types of many—indicate what local peculiarities and difficulties were constantly encountered. The little help seasonably given through the commission to those willing and anxious to help themselves has borne excellent fruit. The returns yield no note of dissatisfaction, of discouragement, or of doubt. From every quarter peals a paean of praise. Perhaps we have a right to hope at least that our little libraries have helped to save from a reversion to aboriginal desolation some of our little hill towns and fishing villages—those highest schools of hardihood and patriotism, not one of which can state or republic afford to lose.

With such problems as I have set forth demanding our chief service, it is needless to say that the Massachusetts commission has spent little time in philosophizing about those minor details of library management necessary and suited to large towns and extensive collections of books. That was evidently not its fore-ordained mission to begin with, whatever it may be later. If, in some country village an enthusiastic woman volunteered to give her services as librarian, and offered the use of her sitting-room as a reception-room for the gift of the state, or if the local store-keeper crowded his calicoes on fewer shelves to make room for the new library, we did not feel called upon to pour cold water upon such altruistic ardor by urging the necessity of a complex system of classification or the printing of an elaborate "catalog." Advice we were always ready to give and have given in great variety—although usually in small packages adapted to a special locality, or suited to the personal equation of the inquirer. But our advice was always in the direction of simplicity and rigid economy; that every available dollar might go to buy new books or to increase their circulation. In the choice of books it has been the custom to assign each town, upon its application for aid, to some member of the board, who at once put himself in touch with the officials and leading minds of the town, ascertained the peculiar needs and tastes of the people, the history and industries of the place, before making his selection of books. Great care has always been taken to have each library pure

and patriotic, thoroughly American, and that it should contain as much of fresh and new literature as could be found available. I believe we have never sent "Dairying for profit" to the fishermen of Cape Cod, but we may have sent "Two years before the mast" or "Tom Cringle's log" to some Berkshire town—for "everybody loves a sailor." But we have had no cut-and-dried lists of volumes "which no library should be without." Suggestions from educated citizens have always been sought for and gladly used, if possible. But the main idea always kept in view has been that every patron of the new library should speedily say, like Oliver Twist, "Please, I want some more." The highest flattery the commission has ever received is the fact that they do clamor for more.

One hundred and twenty years ago the New England town-meeting inaugurated and organ-

ized a revolt against monarchical tyranny, which after a dire contest gave us independence and the free institutions which we enjoy. The New England town-meeting and the New England common school, adopted through all the North, in the march of time inspired and educated a patriotic spirit which, under God, and through the bloody arbitrament of civil war, lifted from us the incubus of slavery and gave to honest labor its proper dignity. And now comes the free public library movement (finding its first home among the congenial hills of New York and New England). It will spread state by state, westward, southward, through all the republic, multiplying, by hundreds, by thousands, its little temples of learning, its store-houses of historic lesson and patriotic memory, every one of which is a pledge to the nation of unity, prosperity, and peace.

LIFE AT THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

By MARY E. ROBBINS, *Class of '92.*

WITH the pleasant memories of two happy, busy years at Albany still fresh in my mind, I was glad when I was asked to present to the Connecticut Library Association a brief sketch of life at the Library School.

Started in 1887 at Columbia College, with a four months' course, under the direction of Melvil Dewey, then chief librarian of the college, it followed him to Albany two years later, when he accepted the care of the State Library in 1887, and is now established in the famous Capitol building, its course being extended to cover two years.

For fear of trenching upon the space set aside for the public, the number in the school is limited to 30. Candidates for admission must be at least 20 years old, with references as to character and ability. If college graduates, their degree admits them without examinations. Otherwise a high-school course—or its equivalent, with two years more of study of college grade, is required. The entrance examinations consist of one each in general history, general literature, general information, and three years' work in a language. These are regular regents' examinations, which are so carefully conducted

that it is almost impossible for partiality or injustice to be shown. 75 per cent. is required on each paper.

Those who enter the school come from all parts of the country. My own class, '92, hailed from eight states, stretching from Massachusetts to Nebraska. In another year both England and Sweden were represented. Some have already had experience in library work, but to the majority it is entirely new. Among the people thus brought together for two years of work toward the one end, many strong friendships are formed, which prove of great benefit when they again scatter all over the country to try to put in practice some of the ideas gained.

The school year of 10 months begins in October, with eight hours a day, or 40 a week, devoted to class work, from Saturday noon till Monday noon being holiday. The instruction is given chiefly by lectures, followed by practice work. To the regular lectures given by members of the staff of the State Library several are added each year by prominent librarians throughout the country. Many incidental talks are also given by distinguished men of this and other countries who visit Albany, for Mr. Dewey does not hesitate to use all his powers of persuasion for the benefit of the school.

The first term of three months is devoted

* Paper read before the Connecticut Library Association.

to cataloging, incidentally learning the library handwriting, and to giving the bewildered novice some idea of the many-sidedness of a librarian's work.

The course for the remainder of the junior year and for the senior year includes dictionary cataloging, classification, bibliography, shelf department work, accessioning, loan systems, reference work, history of libraries, founding and government of libraries, library architecture, and bookbinding, with a few lessons on language and printing.

The Monday afternoon seminar, in which both classes join, is one of the most interesting of the exercises. Under the direction of Miss Cutler, the vice-director, a reporter previously appointed gives a brief review of the news of the week, to which each one in turn adds an item. The rest of the hour is used in various ways. Sometimes two or three sessions are given to the study of an author and his works, or the latest books are criticised and the best methods of selecting them are considered.

There are also opportunities outside the State Library for an insight into the practical workings of a library, since the Y. W. C. A. library and the Diocesan library of All Saints Cathedral are under the charge of the students, and occasional help is given to the Y. M. C. A. librarian.

From Christmas vacation to the end of the year each member of the junior class gives one hour a day of work to the State Library. This is increased to two hours during senior year. By this means the time given to the school by the library staff is made up, and it is possible to keep the tuition at the low amount of \$30 a year for those from New York state, and \$50 for those from outside.

Regents' examinations on the work of the junior year must be passed before entering the senior class. At the end of the course examinations on senior work with a thesis and original bibliography are required for graduation. To those having two years or more of college work, with a standing of 90 per cent. throughout their library course, the degree of Bachelor of Library Science is given. A standing of 90 per cent. without the college preparation graduates with honor but gives no degree.

Every year the Easter vacation is given to a 10 days' visit to New York or Boston, alternately. The libraries and large publishing houses are inspected, and places of interest about the city visited. Friends of the Library

School have shown it great kindness on these occasions. Each one who has accompanied such a party can tell of rare pictures and books freely shown, and of delightful receptions, lunches, and dinners enjoyed. On returning to Albany careful reports are made by different students appointed for the several departments of library work.

From its situation in the Capitol building the school gains many advantages—not the least being the power of concentrating the mind upon the work in hand, regardless of the continual tramp of an endless procession of brides and grooms, and the curious glances and comments of sightseers in general, while object lessons in the practical workings of modern politics may be had by crossing the corridor to the Assembly room and Senate chamber of the New York state legislature.

But it is not all work at the Library School. The instructors understand the need of physical exercise and recreation. Tramping and bicycle riding are popular. Pleasant Saturday afternoons are often spent visiting the points of historic interest in and about Albany. During the winter the women form classes in physical training under a competent teacher, and the gymnasium of the Y. M. C. A. is open to the men.

The students are advised to attend all of the best concerts and plays, and tickets to many private entertainments are given to the school. Mrs. Dewey and Miss Cutler are continually throwing open their pleasant homes for informal receptions. "Work while you work and play while you play" might be considered the motto of the school, from the zeal with which all enter into the various entertainments provided for these evenings.

The graduate from the Library School does not claim the title of "expert librarian" so often thrust upon him by the newspaper reporter, but well understands that years of varied practical experience must first be added to the foundation laid at Albany. Both by precept and example the instructors in the Library School aim not only to teach the mechanical details of a librarian's work—necessary as those are; but to inspire in each graduate the belief that only by a patient giving of his best, mentally, physically, and socially, to the study of the individual needs of the place where his lot is cast can his library take its proper place with the church, the school, and the press—the four great factors toward the betterment of the community.

THE LIBRARY CONFERENCE AT ATLANTA.

THE Conference of Women Librarians which convened in the Assembly Hall of the Women's Building of the Cotton States and International Exposition, November 29 and 30, under the auspices of the Woman's Board of Managers, was an interesting meeting, and it is to be hoped that much good will result to the benefit of the library movement in the South.

Several northern librarians of note were present, and the papers read before the congress were of such general interest that the Commissioner of Education has decided to print them in convenient form for circulation.

Among those present were Miss Hannah P. James, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Miss Nina E. Browne, of the Library Bureau, Boston; Miss Mary S. Sargent, of Medford, Mass.; Miss Alice B. Kroeger, of Drexel Institute, Philadelphia; Mrs. Moses Wadley, of Augusta; Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Carr, of Scranton, Pa.; Mr. R. R. Bowker; Miss Sarah Frierson, of the Library of the University of Georgia; Miss S. A. Field, of the Agnes Scott Library of Decatur, Ga.; Mr. H. C. Lansdale, of the Rome Library; Miss Addie C. Moses, of the Mobile Public Library; Miss Clara Byers, librarian of the Women's Library; Miss Annie C. Miller, for some years connected with the cataloging department of the Boston Public Library; Miss Edith Tobitt, assistant librarian of Omaha Public Library; Mrs. A. E. Buck, president of the History Class of Atlanta; Mrs. M. French-Sheldon, London; Mrs. J. K. Ottley, Atlanta; Mrs. James M. Couper, Atlanta; Mrs. Wm. J. Northern, Miss Northern; Mr. A. V. Gude, director of the Young Men's Library of Atlanta; Mrs. Joseph Le Conte, of California; and Mr. S. P. Jones, assistant secretary of the Young Men's Library of Atlanta.

Mrs. Porter King, chairman of the library committee received and entertained those attending the Librarians' Congress at an afternoon tea at her residence, 73 Merriitts avenue, November 29, from 4 to 7 o'clock, as a delightful forerunner of delights to follow.

The first session was called to order at 11 o'clock, Friday, November 29. Mrs. Porter King, chairman of the library committee of the Board of Women Managers, in the absence of Mrs. Loulie M. Gordon, chairman of Women's Congresses, introduced Miss Wallace as chairman of the day. Mrs. King said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: I welcome you in behalf of the Women's Board, and it becomes my duty, owing to the absence of Mrs. Gordon, to introduce to you the chairman of the day, to whose earnest efforts the success of this meeting is due. Miss Wallace has for some years been connected with the Young Men's Library of this city, and is greatly interested in the future of library work in the South. It gives me great pleasure to introduce Miss Wallace."

On assuming the duties of chairman, Miss Wallace said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: It gives me great

pleasure to welcome you in behalf of the committee having in charge the Librarians' Congress. We thank you for your prompt and hearty response to our call for aid in stimulating library growth in the South.

"While it would take too much of your valuable time for me to attempt even an outline of the condition of library work in the South, suffice it to say that we realize that the West and the East, with their rich and well-organized municipal governments, have far outstripped us in the development of the modern library movement. (The Boston Public Library of to-day has a quick delivery between the library and the substations that travels at a pace that we associate only with the little red wagon of our fire chief. Imagine the evolution that necessitates such a condition.)

"In regard to the absence of the free public library in our section, we call attention to the fact that few if any of the southern states have a law allowing direct taxation for the support of public libraries. Until this legislation is corrected our only hope is the establishment and maintenance of the library association as it now exists in our cities. With dues at a nominal rate and a generous policy in regard to the use of library books in the reading-room by the general public, much good can be effected. The need of keeping in touch with the schools of the city is felt, and the pupils should be made to feel that the library is an adjunct to the schools. A small library, well administered, is capable of much good in any community, and it is for this purpose that we have convened the present congress and offer a program of papers on practical library economy.

"We urge the need of state library associations. The American Library Association has done much toward the growth of the modern library idea, but to the librarians of small town libraries, unable to avail themselves of the superior advantages of a national organization, a state association offers many advantages. In this day of professional brotherhoods the librarians should unite their interests and each reap the benefit of the other's experience.

"A glance at our program reveals the names of some of the best-known librarians of the country. With the same spirit that characterizes the success at Atlanta of the Exposition, we have sought and obtained the best, and it is with no little pride that we present the following program."

Miss Wallace then introduced Miss Hannah P. James, of the Oesterhaut Public Library of Wilkes-Barré, Pa., who read a paper on "The public libraries of America." Miss James gave the history of the library growth in this country for the last quarter of a century, and spoke earnestly of the co-operation that must exist between the school and the library, saying "as the key to the treasure-house, so is the school to the library."

The paper on "Library training schools," which was prepared by Miss Mary W. Plummer, of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, was read by Miss Miller, of Boston. The success of the training school is a modern achievement and arrived

in time to check the downward tendency of appointing librarians from other motives than that of fitness. Miss Plummer's paper was listened to with much interest. Miss Wallace next introduced Mrs. Moses Wadley, of Augusta, Ga., a woman of broad interests and especially devoted to the development of the modern library idea. Mrs. Wadley read a paper on the "Libraries of the West," prepared by Mrs. Carrie W. Whitney, librarian of the Kansas City Public Library. Mrs. Whitney gave an account of the early pioneers of the West in establishing a library in a new country. In closing her paper, Mrs. Whitney spoke of the personal influence of the librarian as the keynote of library success: "It is this that is creating a growing interest in art, literature, and general culture, an increasing demand for good books and less call for ephemeral literature."

The second session of the Library Conference was called at 11 o'clock, Saturday, Nov. 30, Miss Wallace presiding.

The first paper on the program was "Library work in its relation to the public school," presented by Miss Mary S. Sargent, of Medford, Mass. In introducing Miss Sargent Miss Wallace said: "The success of the modern library idea is due to the intimate relation that exists between the public library and the public schools. At an early date the child is taught to look upon the library as the complement of the school, and I know of no one better able to talk to us on this line than Miss Sargent, who has been so successful in the work."

Miss Sargent spoke of the many improvements in library life since the organization of the American Library Association and the publication of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. A library is no longer simply a storehouse for books, but an active factor in the educational world. Culture without college training is possible—but not without books. The pupil should be taught familiarity with books and how to use them.

Miss Alice B. Kroeger, of the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, followed Miss Sargent with an article on "The American Library Association." Under this title Miss Kroeger touched upon the many questions of vital interest to the student of library economy. The paper was free from technicalities and was listened to with interest.

Miss Nina E. Browne, of the Library Bureau, Boston, was next introduced. Miss Browne spoke of the modern office and counting-room with their many labor-saving devices which facilitated the work to be accomplished, and of how the Library Bureau had undertaken to supply such necessary library appliances, and how library work had become systematized and simplified by such aids.

Miss Browne touched upon the various methods of classification, cataloging, etc. She also spoke of the origin of the Bureau in 1876, when the secretary of the A. L. A. took the responsibility of establishing a bureau that would furnish the most improved library appliances. The growth of this institution is another evidence of the stimulus that library growth has received in the last 25 years in contrast with the

old times when the only requisites for the library were a "fossil for librarian and a chain for the books."

Mrs. French-Sheldon, who was an interested visitor at the conference, made an informal talk on the relation between the publisher and the librarian, in which she urged the need of greater co-operation, as the interests of both should be the same.

This closed the conference, the first which has been held in the South. And while the attendance was entirely inadequate to the worth of the papers read it is to be hoped that the future will show good results from the meeting.

The social side of the congress was a very pleasant one and a feeling of good fellowship characterized the informal gatherings.

Besides this pleasant social gathering at the home of Mrs. Porter King, upon their first arrival the visitors greatly enjoyed a social reception tendered by the Board of Directors and Miss Wallace at the Young Men's Library on Saturday evening.

One of the most agreeable episodes of the stay in Atlanta was a visit by several of the party from the North to the State Capitol and the State Library, where they were pleasantly received by the veteran state librarian, Col. John Milledge—whose name has been known in the annals of the state for five generations. Col. Milledge is a cavalry veteran of the war on the Confederate side, and is the author of the "Bugle Song," well known among Southern cavalymen, which we reprint in this issue.

With many expressions of good-will the visitors departed with promises to meet at Cleveland in September, 1896.

THE BUGLE-CALL.

Song by Lieutenant-Colonel John Milledge, Librarian State Library, Georgia.

I LOVE to feel on my bridle bit
The champ of a thoroughbred,
When the bugle call and the ringing hoof
Tell of the charge ahead.
There is no sound, there is no song that stirs a soldier's
soul
Like the bugle-call and the ringing hoof and the charge of
his brigade.

In squadron front, with closed ranks,
Together side by side,
With bounding steed and sabre raised,
Straight to the front we ride.
There is no fear, there is no doubt, but ev'ry man re-
sponds
To the bugle-call and the ringing hoof in the charge of
his brigade.

When the battle's o'er, and the roll is called,
As in the ranks we stand,
There's many a horse that finds his place
Without a guiding hand;
His rider's gone, and all alone, he rushes to respond
To the bugle-call and the ringing hoof in the charge of
his brigade.

There's many a horse and many a man
Who, charging in the fray,
Together fight, together fall,
Together pass away;
In years to come the mem'ry of these scenes will still
remain.
Of the bugle-call and the ringing hoof in the charge of
our brigade,

THE YOUNG MEN'S LIBRARY OF ATLANTA, GA.

THE Young Men's Library Association of Atlanta, Ga., was organized August 19, 1867, by a small number of energetic young men, undaunted by the desolation and poverty of a city but lately in ashes.

To Mr. Darwin G. Jones is due the honor of the initial step that led to the organization of the library association as it stands to-day. The late Capt. Henry Jackson was the first president, and the directory has been composed of the foremost men of the South. Mr. Grady was for many years a leading spirit, and Mr. Hoke Smith served the library as president for two terms.

From its first inception the library became a pet institution of the city, and through the energy of its board of directors and the ladies of the city "grab-bag" fairs, art-loans, and bazaars were held for its benefit, and a good sum was realized. This became the nucleus of the purchase money for the library building on Decatur street, which was erected in 1881, and sold because of the poor location in May, 1892. This was a fortunate financial deal for the association, as it enabled the directors to purchase a desirable location, to pay off a bonded indebtedness, and to put aside \$12,000 as a nest-egg for a permanent endowment fund. To-day the library is on a sound basis, without a dollar of debt, and with sufficient income, when economically administered, to meet current expenses.

The present building is a pleasant Southern home, at the corner of Marietta and Cane sts., in the centre of the city, two blocks from the Post-Office, embowered in trees, and delightful without and within. The house has been fitted for library use by making the two stories into one, and the reading-room and directors' room are fittingly adorned with portraits of notable men of the state.

With no help from the city government, with only one bequest (\$1000 bequeathed by the late Benj. Kidd), the library has steadily grown in usefulness, and is a monument to the individual efforts of the board of directors, who have always been ready to give their time and money for the upbuilding of the library.

The management of the library is generous in the policy of opening the reading-rooms to the public, and only for home use of the books is a membership fee collected.

The library is in close sympathy with the schools of the city, and the students are its daily visitors.

Special attention is paid to the department of Georgia archives and history.

At the last meeting of the directors it was decided to have the books reclassified on the Dewey decimal system and a card catalog instituted.

A vote of thanks to Mr. R. R. Bowker was unanimously passed, expressing appreciation of his valuable gift of "The American Catalogue."

The following is a list of the present officers and board of directors:

Officers: President, George R. De Saussure; Vice-President, J. R. Nutting; Secretary, E. M. Mitchell; Treasurer, M. T. La Hatte.

Directors: Hooper Alexander, F. J. Paxon, C. I. Branan, L. L. Knight, W. M. Slaton, E. C. Kontz, A. A. Meyer, F. M. Scott, C. F. Rice, T. E. Horton, A. V. Gude, C. A. Read.

Librarian, Anne Wallace.

Assistant Secretary, S. P. Jones.

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA AND ITS BURNED LIBRARY.

In the Quarterly Alumni Bulletin of the University of Virginia (v. 2, no. 3) is printed an interesting summary of the history and development of the library, written by the librarian, Mr. F. W. Page, just previous to the fire which on October 27 nearly destroyed the rotunda building and library collection. The number is chiefly given up to a description of the fire and of the plans for rebuilding, which, so far as they relate to the library, we summarize in the hope that the appeals of the university may be seconded to the full of their power by librarians throughout the country in offering duplicates and other help.

"While the greater number were laboring in the annex, some, mindful of the treasures in the library, had hurried hither. It did not yet seem probable that the rotunda would be destroyed. The flames were rapidly running the length of the long annex but between this and the rotunda was a large connecting portico. Surely the devastating progress of the fire could be arrested here. The rotunda roof would be a vantage-ground from which to fight the dire foe, and the portico seemed a narrow bridge over which this enemy must pass. The danger grew with every moment. Appeals for help had been sent to Richmond, Lynchburg, and Staunton. Fruitless efforts were made to reach with water the burning roof. The library was now full of hurrying men, and women, too; their arms piled high with books. Faster and more furious grew the flames; faster and more zealously worked the men within, saving the books and pictures in easy reach. Blow down the portico! was the cry; warning was given to the surging crowd and loud explosions followed. But the portico had been well built. The falling columns left the roof intact; and even after all of them had been shattered, it still remained, a fatal bridge over which the enemy quickly moved. The roof was now a burning mass and the flames drew near the library. Renewed zeal was infused into the workers when it became certain that the library was lost. The long flames lapped the rotunda, just over the little room opening from the upper gallery. This room was filled with files of old papers, stacks of addresses and catalogs, unassorted engravings, and the Bohn collection of books. All of this inflammable material fed the fire, and the rotunda roof was wrapped in flames. The ardor of students and friends knew no bounds. The Jefferson statue, which had been hoisted to its place by patient and slow processes, was lifted from its pedestal, drawn

on a mattress through the room, safely eased down the curving stair, and deposited upon the lawn. The sum total of the damage to it was a slight chipping of the edge of the drapery.

"The Minor bust, the pictures, the furniture, and most of the books on the lower floor were saved. As the crackling timbers and falling plaster warned all of the impending danger, less care and more haste prevailed. Books were thrown from the windows with little regard for their covers or their completeness. A rush was made for the galleries. In vain. It is easy now to see that, if the books upstairs had been saved first, the others could have been saved even after the fire was well advanced. But who thought of that then? And as it was, the work was nobly done."

The faculty on the 31st of October presented a report and appeal of which the following recommendations are a part:

"II. That the two wings to the rotunda be at once reconstructed in their former proportions, but of fire-proof materials, and assigned to the use of the library and the school of natural philosophy, respectively. The remnants of our library, stored temporarily in cellars and garrets, are now collecting on the floor of the Natural History Museum; but for any real use by professors or students the books must be shelved in some accessible apartment. The condition of our philosophical apparatus in the same way renders the work of instruction exceedingly difficult and extravagantly laborious. Finally, the enforced use of the museum as a place of deposit for these objects has made it necessary to close this building entirely to visitors.

"III. That the visitors engage a competent architect and instruct him to propose plans for the restoration of the rotunda, but in fire-proof materials. The walls of this building need little repair, but should be at once protected against damage from weather. The faculty feels that the original proportions of this central building should be religiously observed, but recommends that a new portico should be erected on the north side corresponding to that on the south, with proper flights of steps descending to the esplanade to be formed over the site of the old annex, and thence at the ramparts to the level of the ground. The faculty also respectfully calls the attention of the visitors to the fact that the old library-room had become so crowded with books that an orderly arrangement of them was impossible, and the consequent utility of the collection was seriously impaired. They therefore recommend that the architect be instructed so to design the interior of the building that the whole of the capacity from the dome down to the portico floor may hereafter be readily and simply utilizable for library purposes, and they request that he be also instructed to consult with their library committee as to the details of this design. They also advise that the architect be instructed to give especial attention to the problems of *heating, lighting, and ventilation*, which, in the old building, were inadequately solved.

"VIII. The faculty is deeply impressed with the propriety of following in these new buildings

classical types of designs and of locating them so as to create an harmonious combination with the original Jeffersonian group. As we examine the additions made to this system by Jefferson's successors, we are forced to confess with a certain shame that not one of them has added in the least degree to the harmony and beauty and magnificence of the original composition. We recommend, therefore, that the visitors select as their professional adviser a man not of local repute only, but of broad and national consideration; that he be instructed to consider in his designs not merely the convenience and elegance of the single structure, but its effect as a member of our general architectural system."

The alumni, in their appeal to the public, say:

"Our faculty have resolved to recommend to the visitors the immediate reconstruction of the rotunda and its wings with fire-proof materials, and refitting of the former with the most approved and modern library appliances. The estimated cost of this restoration and improvement is about \$80,000. The library, sadly diminished in volume and value by our misfortune, needs especial subsidies. At least \$50,000 should be at once provided for the purchase of new books to re-establish its present usefulness; and an endowment of \$50,000 should be provided to give it liberal maintenance for the future."

MR. SPOFFORD'S SPECIAL REPORT ON THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

UNDER date of December 2, 1895, Mr. A. R. Spofford has replied to a resolution of Congress, passed last March, as to a reorganization of the Library of Congress and the separation of the law library. Mr. Spofford makes this an opportunity to trace the history and development of the library, including the copyright office, since 1865, quoting from his appeal in his interesting report of 1872, when there were 246,000 volumes in the library, which he reckoned would be increased to 700,000 by 1900. There are already 725,000 volumes, besides about 250,000 pamphlets. The copyright entries, 1870-94, show a total of 701,714, including, of course, music, drama, art works, periodicals, etc. Nearly 100,000 new publications of all kinds are now received per year.

Mr. Spofford emphasizes the vast difficulties of providing in past years for these accumulations, describes the proposed disposition of the rooms in the new building, devotes a full page to a category of his personal duties, and says as to the financial charges against him:

"There have been times when the utterly insufficient force and the pressure upon the librarian of official work which could not be postponed or neglected has led to arrears in accounts which were deeply regretted. He shrinks from no responsibility in this or in any other matter, and while candidly admitting a sense of humiliation that any errors should be laid to his charge, he claims with equal candor that while he may have erred in construing too

liberally certain provisions of law, he is free from any conscious wrongdoing."

He then outlines the duties and the proper administration of the copyright office, and says finally, in direct reply to the resolution:

"Respecting the general question of the reorganization of the entire library service, it may be gathered from what has been laid before Congress that the following departments or divisions are deemed important: (1) Printed books, (2) periodicals, (3) manuscripts, (4) maps and charts, (5) works of art, (6) catalog department, (7) binding department, (8) copyright office and records, (9) superintendence.

"Each of these divisions should have a competent head, and the salaries of those employed in each should be graduated in proportion to experience, capacity, and responsibility. Minor divisions, especially in the department of printed books, will be necessary, but into details of the distribution of duties, among those especially skilled in various divisions of knowledge, the librarian will not now enter, in view of the length of this report. . . .

"It remains to advert briefly to the question included in the instruction of Congress to the librarian, as to the expediency of removing the law library to the new building. While the ultimate accommodation of this department in that edifice may be deemed highly desirable, yet, so long as the Supreme Court continues its sessions in the Capitol, the undersigned believes that the convenience of that tribunal, as well as that of Congress, would be best subserved by continuing the law library in its present location, or, perhaps, accommodating it in one of the upper halls to be vacated.

"The uses to which the space in the existing library of Congress may be applied after the removal demand the careful consideration of Congress. It is suggested that a working reference library of from 10,000 to 20,000 volumes might usefully be left in the central library hall, where senators and representatives could enjoy a quiet opportunity for researches, in preparing their reports or speeches, free from the intrusion of the public. This selection of volumes might include not only the principal encyclopædias, dictionaries, and other works of reference, but also one copy of the more important American and British authors. This could be done from the duplicates of the main library, which would thus remain unimpaired as a library of reference. The two wings of the library, with their iron shelving, are admirably adapted for the orderly arrangement and safe preservation of the very valuable manuscript archives of the Senate and House, now exposed in rooms which are far from fire-proof. The Senate documentary library might also be accommodated in one of the wings, without materially interfering with the purpose referred to. The further suggestion occurs of making more rooms for the committees of Congress, and, in the judgment of the architect of the Capitol, about 12 such rooms (six in each wing) might be fitted up, although this would quite preclude the proposed safekeeping of the papers of Congress. This

subject is commended to the attention of both Houses.

"The librarian may be permitted to add, in connection with the auspicious opening at a period not now remote of the new and commodious library building, that its public usefulness would be greatly enhanced were Congress to provide for making its stores accessible to the public during the evening hours. While it is neither safe nor expedient to make it a library of circulation, which is incompatible with its uses as a great and comprehensive library of reference, there appears no good reason why its advantages should not be as liberally extended as is compatible with its safety and preservation."

GOVERNMENTAL REPORTS, 1895, ON PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

PUBLIC PRINTER.

THE Annual Report of the Public Printer for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, was presented to the President of the Senate by Th. E. Benedict, under date of Dec. 17, 1895, and has just been issued. It includes the usual statement of number, cost, and distribution of each government document printed, and other tables. In reference to the "Document Division," Mr. Benedict says:

"After much reflection, I appointed Mr. F. A. Crandall, of Buffalo, N. Y., a gentleman whose recommendations for the position were of the highest, and who possessed an additional qualification, viz., that he would have nothing to unlearn in order to carry out the evident intention of Congress to secure better methods and greater efficiency in the distribution of public documents. He entered upon his duties March 26, and has made most satisfactory progress in the work, although encountering many difficulties, not the least of which has been the want of convenient storage-room.

"With the approval of the Joint Committee on Printing, the sixth floor of the Union Building, situated on G street N.W., was leased for the use of the document division. This building is said to be fire-proof, and was the only available one of that nature conveniently located.

"The space is, however, limited—too limited to hold all the documents committed to my charge by law—and as I have been thus far unable to secure any other suitable fire-proof room or building I have deemed it prudent to refuse to accept control of a great many valuable books now in safe places in departments and offices and remove them to a building where they would be exposed to destruction by fire."

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS.

The first report of the Superintendent of Documents, Mr. F. A. Crandall, dated Oct. 1, 1895, is included in the above and is also published separately, with appendixes giving statistics of distribution, comments of librarians, and the present list of public depositories.

Speaking of the difficulties of classified storage, Mr. Crandall says:

"After some consideration I devised a sort of combination of library 'stacks' and storage 'bins,' of which 78 have been built, containing 2340 bins, each of which will hold from 75 to 300 books according to the size of the volumes, giving room for more than 300,000 documents, at a cost only about a fifth as great as that of shelving of equal capacity. These answer perfectly the purpose of classified storage for which they were designed. But they cover a great area, and to make their contents immediately and surely available a key was needed. This was provided in a library exclusively of public documents, to contain one copy of every publication of the Government of which any duplicates were in my possession. When this library has been properly classified and cataloged its shelves will unlock the treasures of the public documents and make all their contents immediately and practically available for the uses of the officers of the Government and the public at large.

"No very great progress has been made with this plan, for several reasons. The bins have been built, and many thousand books have been received, cleaned, assorted, and placed in them; but the library which is to be the key to their contents has been delayed by several causes. In the first place, I was entirely unable to find anybody who could tell me how many volumes I must provide shelf-room for in order to make as complete a collection as possible of public documents. Only one recognized authority on the subject ventured an opinion, and he, when I told him I had made up my mind to provide for 10,000, predicted that I would never be able to find so many different volumes. However, that amount of shelving was provided, and it had not been up a fortnight before it was evident that it would not be sufficient. It was decided to increase the capacity of the library 50 per cent., but there has been delay in securing the additional fire-proof shelving, and that has been one cause that has hindered the library organization."

As to future cataloging he says:

"The plan on which it is proposed to pursue the cataloging of the public documents contemplates that the force employed on the catalogs which are by law required to be printed shall begin at the Fifty-third Congress and work forward, keeping pace with the future publications of Congress and the departments, and issuing an annual volume of the "comprehensive index" promptly following the adjournment of Congress each year. At the same time it is contemplated that the library force shall begin at the Fifty-second Congress and catalog backward, going as far as they can find anything to catalog, and thus making the two branches of the cataloging work connect with and supplement each other. The catalog of the public documents printed during the period from March 4, 1893, to June 30, 1895 (being the 'comprehensive index' provided for in section 62 of the act providing for the public printing and binding and the distribution of public documents, approved January 12, 1895), is at the

date of this report substantially complete, but it must have thorough revision, and it may therefore be some weeks before it can be sent to the printer.

"The Monthly Catalogue provided for in section 69 of the act hereinbefore referred to has been before the public since early in August, and has been well received."

As to the clearing-house work he says:

"Mr. John G. Ames, as superintendent of documents in the Interior Department, devised a plan of clearing documents between libraries that proved of general benefit. I have been asked by several librarians to continue it, and I needed no urging to agree to do so, as its advantages are obvious, and it is only through this office that such a plan could be worked. The depository libraries receive from this office only one copy of any public document; nevertheless they accumulate great numbers of duplicates. This results mainly from the favor of members of Congress, who apparently seldom stop to inquire whether a library to which they wish to send a book is a designated depository and therefore sure to receive the same book from another source. Many of the depository libraries are also on the list of the Smithsonian Institution and various bureaus, and receive their reports first in cloth and afterward from this office in sheep. In some cases these duplicates have been accumulating for many years, and among them are found some of the earliest publications of the Government. Many of the libraries, while having duplicates of some documents, have no copies at all of others, making breaks in their sets which they are desirous to fill. Other libraries may have duplicates of those which the first named are lacking and themselves be lacking those of which the others have a surplus. This office undertakes to receive the duplicates from those libraries which wish to be relieved of them and to supply the deficiencies of those which have broken sets. To enable this to be accomplished with ease and certainty, Mr. Ames compiled a check-list of public documents on which librarians might indicate by a simple check-mark the documents they lacked to complete their sets. The first edition of this check-list is exhausted. I have a second and considerably enlarged edition of it in press. It will make a volume of considerably over 200 pages, packed with information relating to the public documents, and I hope will be found useful, not only by librarians, but by all who have occasion to consult public documents."

The happy suggestion is made that members of Congress should hereafter send to their constituents orders for books instead of the books themselves, which possibly are not wanted and will only be given out to waste. The report is full of information and suggestion, and should be generally read.

DOCUMENT-ROOM, INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

Mr. John G. Ames, under date of Nov. 15, 1895, submits to the Secretary of the Interior his

report, up to July 1 as to his work of distribution, over his present signature as "Clerk in charge of Documents," appending to it 13 pages of favorable comment from librarians and others on his Comprehensive Index 1889-'93. As to a possible continuation of this backward, he says:

"Very soon after the publication of my last report the Comprehensive Index of Government Publications, 1889-1893, to which reference was made therein, was issued. . . .

"There is now a general desire that a similar index to all prior publications of the Government be prepared at the earliest practicable day. If an index covering only four years is found to be of such practical utility, one covering the whole period of government history would prove almost invaluable. Nothing else would so greatly enhance the worth of public documents and increase their use, for such an index would be a key to unlock vast treasuries which hitherto have been inaccessible, and will continue to be so until the key is supplied. . . .

"If the publication of the Comprehensive Index for 1889-1893, in which you took so warm an interest, shall prove in any measure instrumental in the accomplishment of this vastly larger and more important work, the labor and expense involved in its preparation will be fully justified."

LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

A "Library Assistants' Association" has been formed in England, "to promote," as its rules show, "the social, intellectual, and professional interests of its members." The committee, in pursuance of these objects, are arranging a series of fortnightly meetings, at which papers on subjects of professional interest will be read. It is also proposed to hold social meetings at irregular intervals. The chairman of the committee is Mr. Robert Alec Peddie, who will receive applications for membership addressed to him at 9 Weltje Road, Hammersmith, London; the hon. treasurer is Mr. Ernest H. Caddie, Battersea Public Libraries, 53 Leathwaite Road, Clapham Common, London; the hon. secretary is Mr. F. Meaden Roberts, St. George, Hanover Square, Public Library, Buckingham Palace Road, London; and the committee include Messrs. H. Oliver Bursill, Newington Public Library; Harry G. T. Cannons, Clerkenwell Public Library; A. H. Carter, St. Martin-in-the-Fields Public Library; S. J. Clarke, Chelsea Public Library; E. E. England, West Ham Public Libraries; B. M. Headicar, St. Saviour's Public Library, Southwark; Arthur Nash, Clapham Public Library; Frank J. Peplow, Camberwell Central Library; Edward Quinn, Lambeth Central Library, and Wm. Vellenoweth, Minet Public Library.

The following are the rules:

1. *Name.*—The association shall be called "The Library Assistants' Association."

2. *Objects.*—Its objects shall be to promote the social, intellectual, and professional interests of

its members, by meetings of a social character, by discussions on professional subjects, and in such other ways as may be suggested from time to time.

3. *Ordinary Members.*—(a) All persons engaged in library administration, other than chief librarians, shall be eligible for election. Applications shall be made in writing to the hon. secretary, and shall be considered at the next meeting of the committee. (b) When a member is raised to the status of chief librarian, or leaves the profession, such person shall cease to be a member six months after his promotion. (c) The association at any ordinary meeting of not less than 20 members, shall have power to expel any member by a vote of two-thirds of those present. Such member shall have the right of appeal to the annual general meeting.

4. *Hon. Members.*—The committee shall have the power of electing hon. members, who shall not have the right of voting.

5. *Subscription.*—(a) The annual subscription shall be 5s. for senior, and 2s. 6d. for junior assistants, payable in advance from the date of election. (b) Members being six months in arrear with their subscriptions shall cease to belong to the association.

6. *Officers.*—(a) The officers of the association shall consist of chairman, treasurer, secretary, and a committee of 10, who shall be elected at the annual meeting. (b) Not more than one member from the same library shall be eligible to serve as an officer of the association at the same time. (c) In the event of any of these offices falling vacant, the vacancy shall be filled at the next ordinary meeting of the association.

7. *Meetings.*—(a) There shall be an annual meeting, of which due notice shall be given. (b) Ordinary meetings shall be held at such times and places as shall be decided by the committee. (c) Special general meetings shall be called on the requisition of 10 members of the association.

8. *Procedure.*—Amendments to these rules shall only be considered at the annual meeting, or at a special general meeting convened for that purpose.

The association is organized in connection with the L. A. U. K. and has its cordial support. The committee has already made considerable progress in collecting a technical library for the use of library assistants.

A FRENCH REPORT ON AMERICAN LIBRARIES.

M. LE SOUDIER, French Commissioner on Libraries at the Chicago World's Fair, has published his report, from which we extract the following interesting chapter:

"The United States offers a wide field for books and newspapers of every language. Works of all kinds, scientific and literary, and all sorts of newspapers have there a considerable number of readers.

"The United States is perhaps the richest in

libraries. The public libraries, those of the universities and colleges for boys and girls, the private libraries, and those of numberless institutions or associations are similar to an immense reservoir wherein fall all mental productions. The yearly income of a university often reaches the sum of 500,000f., 1,000,000f., 2,000,000f. even. The poorest university has an annual income of 45,000f.

"These numerous libraries are richly endowed, either by gifts of money or of books or by royal donations from American protectors of art.

"To give an idea of the richness of certain libraries it is sufficient to quote a few figures. There are at present in the United States about 4000 libraries, containing more than 31,000,000 volumes, 27,000,000 of which are bound. For a total population of 63,000,000 this makes an average of one library for 16,000 inhabitants, and an average of 50 volumes for 100 inhabitants. The states which are richer in volumes are those which border on the Atlantic Ocean. The state of Massachusetts, with a population of 2,200,000, possesses more than 500 libraries, containing 6,000,000 volumes. The state of New York, with the same number of libraries, possesses 4,500,000 volumes for a population of 6,000,000. The state of Pennsylvania, with 350 libraries, contains 3,000,000 volumes for a population of 5,500,000.

"All the states are not as well favored. Texas has 4 volumes for 100 inhabitants, and the District of Columbia has 924 volumes for 100 inhabitants. In the state of Massachusetts there are 63 times as many volumes as in Texas. It is estimated that there are in the United States 3 libraries of more than 500,000 volumes, 1 of 300,000 to 500,000 volumes, 26 of 100,000 to 300,000, 68 of 50,000 to 100,000, 128 of 25,000 to 50,000, 383 of 10,000 to 25,000, 565 of 5000 to 10,000, and 2600 of 1000 to 5000.

"In the public libraries readers have the greatest facility to read or to take out books. Thus the public has formed the habit of going to the library instead of to the booksellers. The buying public is smaller in numbers than in Europe. There is a great deal of reading in the United States, and women form the strongest contingent of readers. Men have not the time to read. They are content with newspapers, which form the only reading-matter of most of the business men of North America. This explains the fabulous circulation of political papers. There are often 32 pages in a Sunday paper.

"Women have more leisure. Unlike men, who usually leave school for business at 15 or 16 years of age, women often study until 20 years of age. When married, a woman continues to study. Thus men who are not members of a liberal profession have only a modest education, whereas women possess instruction of a higher level. This intellectual predominance of the feminine element insures in the public libraries much room for works of literature and novels, whereas in universities classic authors and scientific books predominate."

THE LIBRARIAN'S PASTIME READING.

Extract from a talk on "Work in a Library," by J. C. Dana, Librarian Denver P. L., before the teachers of Denver.

He is perhaps not a true librarian who does not prefer the latest catalog to the latest novel. To the bookman proper books are very pleasant as an occasional pastime; catalogs are daily food. This reading of literature and this bibliographical study give one information about the books that were written 20, 40, 50 years ago. To-day, in the growing library, the careful buyer must keep himself informed as to books published this morning. To do this he must read current books and criticisms. We all know where Marion Crawford stands, let us say, and can tell pretty accurately what his next book will be like before it is printed, how thin it will be; how many literary-soda-water inebriates will grab for it. But who shall tell us of Sarah Grand and the "Heavenly twins"? The good critics try to. So the library man patiently, not to say eagerly, if he is to the manner born, goes through the *Critic*, and the *Dial*, and the *Book-Buyer*, and the *Publishers' Weekly*, and the *Publishers' Circular*, and *Book News*, and *Book Chat*, and the *Nation*, and the *Atlantic*, and perhaps the *London Spectator*, and *Speaker*, and *Athenæum*, and *Academy*, and a few other such literary journals, as they come each week and month, with occasional excursions into the book notices in technical journals and magazines on electricity, mining, railroads, and science in general. This book notice and catalog reading the librarian does between whiles. It is not his work; it is his pastime. He reads, or has read, as everybody well knows, all the books already purchased and on the shelves. He oversees the daily work in the library. He answers questions, or tries to, about the color of Lowell's hair when he was a boy, and the age of the cliff-dwellings, and the virtues of the income tax, and the position of the centre of the universe. He looks after the library accounts. He quells public insurrections arising from an assistant's refusal to permit some one to carry off the whole library at once. He writes and answers innumerable letters and makes himself useful in a variety of other ways. Meantime and between whiles he endeavors to keep informed as to Dr. Chas. R. Briggs's latest denial, Prof. Ely's last economic sweetmeats, the differences, if any, between "Dodo" and "Dora Thorne," etc.; etc.

"But with all his reading and study he is not yet ready to buy the books for his library. He must first take into consideration not simply the standing of the book among other books of its class, and its fitness to fill out a weak place in the library, and the condition of the finances of the library—he must especially keep in mind the character of the constituency of the library,—is it seeking friends and readers or can it afford to buy the best books even though at present they do not attract new readers? All these things and others does he bear in mind. And he is perhaps fairly ready now to decide to buy a book."

FAVORITE BOOKS AT A UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT.

THE following list shows the books most in demand at the University Settlement of Delancy street, New York City, and was prepared by Miss Moore, librarian of the Settlement house. It gives the books in the order of their popularity.

- 1 Uncle Tom's Cabin. H. B. Stowe.
- 2 U. S. History. Edward Eggleston.
- 3 At the Back of the North Wind. Geo. Macdonald.
- 4 Seven Little Sisters. Jane Andrews.
- 5 Stories Mother Nature Told Her Children. Jane Andrews.
- 6 The New Year's Bargain. Susan Coolidge.
- 7 Alice in Wonderland. Lewis Carroll.
- 8 Donald and Dorothy. Mary Mapes Dodge.
- 9 Winning His Way. Charles Carlton Coffin.
- 10 Boys of '61. " " "
- 11 Boys of '76. " " "
- 12 The Man Without a Country. (Illustrated Edition.) E. E. Hale.
- 13 Little Lord Fauntleroy. Mrs. F. H. Burnett.
- 14 Timothy's Quest. Kate Douglas Wiggin.
- 15 Birds' Christmas Carol. Kate Douglas Wiggin.
- 16 Children's Book. H. E. Scudder.
- 17 Crowded Out o' Crofield. William O. Stoddard.
- 18 Letters from a Cat. H. H.
- 19 Little Men. Louisa M. Alcott.
- 20 Little Women. " " "
- 21 Jo's Boys. " " "
- 22 Eight Cousins and Rose in Bloom. Louisa M. Alcott.
- 23 Old-Fashioned Girl.
- 24 John Halifax. Miss Muloch.
- 25 Lamplighter. Cummins.
- 26 Hans Brinker, or, the Silver Skates. Mary Mapes Dodge.
- 27 The Story of a Bad Boy. T. B. Aldrich.
- 28 One of the 38th. G. A. Henty.
- 29 Little Smoke. W. O. Stoddard.
- 30 Life of Washington. H. E. Scudder.
- 31 Life of Lincoln. J. G. Holland.
- 32 Life of Garfield. Horatio Alger.
- 33 The Prince and the Pauper. Mark Twain.
- 34 Uncle Sam's Medal of Honor.
- 35 Rab and His Friends. John Brown, M.D.
- 36 Story of the City of New York. Theodore Roosevelt.
- 37 Red Fairy Book. A. Lang.
- 38 Blue. " " "
- 39 Green. " " "
- 40 Juan and Juanita. Frances Courtenay Baylor.
- 41 Captain January. Laura E. Richards.
- 42 Editha's Burglar. Mrs. F. H. Burnett.
- 43 Little Susy's Six Birthdays. Mrs. E. Prentiss.
- 44 " " Little Servants. " " "
- 45 " " Six Teachers. " " "
- 46 Child's Book of Nature. H. E. Scudder.
- 47 Five Little Peppers. Margaret Sidney.
- 48 The Moral Pirates. W. L. Alden.
- 49 Ten Boys Who Lived on the Road from Long Ago to Now. G. A. Henty.
- 50 Phil and the Baby. Lucy C. Lillie.
- 51 The Lion of the North. G. A. Henty.
- 52 The Doctor's Daughter. Sophie May.
- 53 John Jack. Lynde Palmer.
- 54 Stories of American History. N. S. Dodge.
- 55 World's Fair Book for Boys and Girls. (Century Co.)
- 56 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. Jules Verne.
- 57 Old Curiosity Shop. Chas. Dickens.
- 58 Phaeton Rogers. Rossiter Johnson.
- 59 Jennie's Boarding-House.
- 60 Cudjo's Cave. J. T. Trowbridge.
- 61 The Jungle Book. Rudyard Kipling.
- 62 Adventures of Tom Sawyer. Mark Twain.
- 63 The Brownies. Palmer Cox.
- 64 Big Brother. G. C. Eggleston.
- 65 Daddy Jake. Joel C. Harris.
- 66 Carrots. M. L. Molesworth.
- 67 Tell Us a Story. M. L. Molesworth.
- 68 Boy's Percy. Sidney Lanier.
- 69 Nan. Lucy C. Lillie.
- 70 Robinson Crusoe. Defoe.
- 71 Swiss Family Robinson. J. Rod. Wyss, and J. J. P. de B. Baroune Montolieu.
- 72 Gypsy Breynton. E. S. Phelps.

American Library Association.

EUROPEAN TRIP, 1897.

JANUARY 6, 1896.

THE result, to date, of the vote of the members of the association on the proposition for a European post-conference trip in 1897, is as follows:

Members heard from.....	271
In favor of the resolution.....	197
Opposed.....	28
Not caring to vote.	44
Members—will try to go.....	147
Friends members wish to take with them..	123
Total—members and friends.....	270
Prefer May and June.....	6
Prefer June and July.....	9
Prefer July and August.....	101
Prefer August and September.....	17

This would seem to fix our meeting-place for the 1897 Conference on the Atlantic sea-coast, with a post-conference trip to Europe in July and August.

A registry of the names of members intending to go has been made. As the number of the party will undoubtedly have to be limited, members should send to the secretary the names of their friends whom they wish to take with them, that the register may be as definite as possible.

The cost of the trip will not exceed the sum named in the circular, \$290. Inquiry as to rates and routes will be made of steamship companies and tourist agencies, and the most definite information possible laid before the Cleveland Conference.

Correspondence has been opened with the officers and members of the L. A. U. K., and also with members of our own association, in regard to the most interesting route through Great Britain, and the most desirable libraries, both large and small, for us to visit. Members who wish to vote on the proposition, and have not already done so, should respond at once.

H. L. ELMENDORF, Sec.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, {
ST. JOSEPH, MO. }

TREASURER'S CARD.

MR. GEORGE WATSON COLE informs his friends that he has resigned his position of librarian of the Free Public Library of Jersey City, N. J., on account of ill health. All communications or mail matter intended for him personally should hereafter be addressed to the care of Gustav E. Stechert, 810 Broadway, New York City.

Mr. Edwin H. Anderson, librarian of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been appointed assistant treasurer of the American Library Association, and all the books and records connected with the treasurer's office have been turned over to him. Mr. Cole requests the members of the association to communicate with Mr. Anderson on all matters connected with the treasurer's office, especially those relating to membership dues, which become payable in January.

JERSEY CITY, Dec. 9, 1895.

Library Associations.

N. Y. L. A. AND N. Y. L. C.

JOINT MEETING, JANUARY 10, 1896.

THE meeting was called to order by Mr. W. F. Stevens, President of the N. Y. Library Club, who gave a brief address of welcome, and introduced Mr. S. H. Berry, vice-president of the association, as the presiding officer of the joint sessions.

Mr. Berry referred to the death of the president of the association, Mr. R. B. Pool, and of the second vice-president, Miss Louise S. Cutler. That the library movement in the state was progressing was shown by the consolidation of the three great libraries of the city, and the establishing of numerous libraries in small places throughout the state. The next five years ought to be years of great development.

On motion of Mr. Stevens a committee of five was appointed to nominate officers of the association for the coming year. Mr. W. R. Eastman announced that the list of 200 leading books of 1895 was not ready, but would be mailed to members shortly.

The regular program was then opened by Miss Moore, who read her paper on "Settlement libraries." These libraries were chiefly of service to two kinds of minds; the older minds who need stimulus and the children who need guiding; they feed the starved minds of the shop girls and factory hands, whose only reading besides the newspaper is the factory act. The duty of the library, simple and clear, is to be helpful, and to make it easier to get books than not to get them; it reaches the boys who cannot get references to the public library and young students who need guiding, and the little girls. It has an influence on cleanliness and truth-speaking, and on conduct, manners, and morals. The boy who steals another boy's hat will pay for the book he loses. It is the kindergarten, teaching how to use other libraries.

Started by Dr. Coit in 1837, in a dingy little hall, the University Settlement library in New York grew from weekly to daily openings, and is now located at 26 Delancey street, in a most crowded district. Children of foreign-born parents are its constituents. Politeness, patience, and good-nature prevail when they often have to wait more than an hour for books.

In January last the library turned away so many that an appeal was made for money and books, with considerable success. The experiment of giving charge at night during the summer months to lads from the College of N. Y. was a success. Among the books called for have been "History of Alabama and the forty thieves" and "How to get educated and how to stay so." The library contains 2500 v., membership is 1077; circulation in December last, 34,388. There is need in the lower part of city for a number of such small libraries.

In answer to queries Miss Moore said that lost books were always paid for.

Mr. Tyler thought too much pains were taken to keep books clean. When a book has done its work put another in its place.

Miss Mary S. Cutler, of the State Library School, Albany, N. Y., then read an interesting paper on "Home and club libraries." The home library idea is to give poor children books and a friend. It originated with Mr. Charles W. Birtwell, Secretary of the Children's Aid Society of Boston, who loaned books to poor children of his acquaintance and then talked them over with the children after the books were read. Organization followed and friends joined the work as visitors. A home library involves a group of 10 children, boys and girls, 20 books at the house of one circulating among them all, and a visitor of intelligence and tact who meets with the children once a week, talks over the books, and aids them in any way possible. The personal influence of the visitor is of great value. There are several groups in Albany, and once in three or four months the libraries pass from one group to another.

Books are carefully selected for these groups. Too high a grade of reading must not be expected. These children are three or four years behind children who have always been familiar with books. Disappointment must be expected. Buy good editions, with illustrations and attractive covers, which are a part of the educational influence. We furnish slip covers, which may be used. Children do not read the books through at first, but learn slowly to enjoy them. They take pride in having the books clean when they pass to the next group. Balance the libraries, putting in each a volume of history, one of light travel, and a book about animals like Mrs. Jackson's cat stories "Buz," "Sparrow, the tramp." Fairy stories are the most popular. Grimm's "Household tales" are preferred to Andersen's.

The groups and libraries are named; sometimes by the giver of the library for a child whose framed picture goes with the library. We have the Columbus, Washington, Anthony Wayne, Lincoln, and Edison groups.

Games are introduced to advantage by visitors, and will be added to the libraries; as will be also selected pictures. The rule of the group is the rule of the majority; when games are proposed a vote is taken. The Columbus group has done a deal of work outside of reading the books. Music is a powerful aid, and all our children have met together on Saturdays for instruction in singing under a competent director.

But there is something deeper in all this. The movement known as the new philanthropy is one of the strong factors in our civilization to-day; it is characterized by two tendencies—1, A scientific study of the principles of philanthropy; information before reformation. 2, A spirit of friendliness; not alms but a friend. The philanthropic work of our cities is largely done by young college women, but they lack discipline. The difficulty is ignorance; the remedy study. A class in philanthropy should be organized under a competent teacher. There should be a two years' course; an hour of class work once a week; five hours a week of study for nine or 10 months of the year; with investigation of local conditions. If such class-work

were done in any city for 10 years or more its charities would feel the effect.

The paper was warmly received and later a resolution was passed approving and recommending the establishment of a class in philanthropy in this city.

Miss E. A. Bangs read a paper on "Parish libraries." In 1892 a suggestion was made that a free library be established for the use of all the associations connected with St. George's parish. Dr. Rainsford approved, funds were provided, and 2000 or more books procured and cataloged. The library is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 and Sunday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Between 400 and 500 adults and children use the library constantly. Last year the circulation was 8835. We could do more if we had more books.

The topics being thrown open for discussion, the condition of books loaned to children and the number of times a book could circulate among them before being worn out were fully considered.

Miss Hannah P. James stated that the condition of books loaned to school-children depended on the teachers.

Mr. Dewey had a different opinion now from that he held eight years ago, since his experience with his own eight-year-old boy who had a puppy given him for a Christmas present.

Miss Moore had had contaminated books fumigated, and never knew of any harm coming from any. For awhile her entire reference work depended on "Champlin's cyclopedia of common things." Then she had three reference-books, a Latin dictionary, a biographical dictionary, and a geographical gazetteer, and lately she had received the "Century cyclopædia of names." She wished for more books, especially text-books of any kind.

A visitor stated that the Unitarian Parish library with 1100 v. had circulated 10,000 v. last year.

Mr. W. R. Eastman called attention to a number of settlement and parish libraries in different parts of the city.

The University settlement was reported as open every evening and Saturday morning. They had started a scheme of lending small libraries to schools in the neighborhood, and the teachers reported a marked difference in the work done by the children in order to secure the privilege of drawing books.

Rev. J. C. Thomas spoke of the use a pastor could make of books in his parish visitations.

Mrs. F. H. Hess remarked that not only children needed help but also teachers who were ignorant of the literature of the subjects they were teaching.

Mr. Fairfield, of the Union Theological Seminary settlement said their library consisted of a chaotic collection of books, many wholly inappropriate for their wants, but they circulated 4000 v. a month. There was a greater demand for books than they could supply from the Italian children.

Mr. Frank Hill suggested that librarians show

their interest in the settlement work by making donations from their duplicates.

Mr. Nelson remarked that Miss Moore's request afforded an opportunity for disposing of the obsolete text-books that were of no use in general libraries.

Miss Moore again appealed for text-books, dictionaries, and translations.

Mr. Nelson. — We at Columbia will have to draw the line on dictionaries and "ponies."

Miss Hannah P. James read an instructive paper on "Librarians at the Atlanta Exposition." [A large portion of the paper is covered by the report on another page.] When the invitation came she supposed it meant a library movement in the South.

The reason for the lack of a general library movement seemed to be due to the feeling that if one public library was opened there would have to be another for negroes. If one endowed, free public library could be established it would do much to soften the race feeling.

The Young Men's Library at Atlanta contained 2000 v. well chosen and used; arranged by fixed location. Miss Wallace arranged a meeting with the board for Misses James and Brown, and as a result they voted to have the library "reconstructed" and classified.

Mr. Bowker arranged with Dr. Harris at Washington to have the papers read at the congress published at once and distributed widely over the South. The outcome of the congress was sure to be fine.

The question was asked if there was not some library in the South where negroes could draw books.

Mr. A. W. Tyler replied that at Wilmington, Del., the library was free to all, black and white; the colored teachers appreciated the privilege more than the white.

Mrs. Hess. — At Galveston, Tex., a bequest of \$275,000 has been made to found a library free to all.

Reference was made to the Enoch Pratt Free Public Library, at Baltimore, Md.

Dr. Richardson called attention to the well-organized system at Atlanta University for negroes. At Macon, Ga., a library connected with a church shows no distinction.

Miss Mary W. Plummer read a paper describing the "New library building of the Pratt Institute," and exhibited the plans of the same. This paper was admirably written, handling the technical subject with clearness and simplicity and avoiding tautology in dealing with similar details.

A business meeting of the New York Library Association was then held. The committee on nominations reported the following list of officers, who were elected without opposition. President, J. N. Larned, Buffalo; Vice-Pres., C. Alex. Nelson, New York, Miss M. Emogene Hazeltine, Jamestown; Sec., W. R. Eastman, Albany; Treas., J. N. Wing, New York.

The proposed change in the name of the association was discussed, and on motion the question was laid upon the table till the afternoon session.

The afternoon session was called to order at 3:10 o'clock. Mr. Henry S. Nourse, of So. Lancaster, Mass., a member of the Mass. State Library Commission, made an address on "The state and the public library." Mr. Tillinghast, president of the Mass. Commission, had, said Mr. Nourse, one very great fault—his over-modesty, and the faculty of making other people work, so the only rural member of the commission represented it to-day.

Mr. Melvil Dewey said the relation of the state to the public library was the most vital problem of the time. In the early days of the A. L. A. much attention was given to mechanical details. The time is now come to give attention to the selection of books, and for aid from the municipality, the state, and the nation. The plan originated 70 years ago when Seward, Clinton, and others in New York realized that the state must provide both schools and libraries; that education must reach both adults as well as children. The school-district libraries were provided with the school district as the unit. There were 160,000 v. in these libraries in 1853 and 1854. The community at large was required to raise an equal sum to that given by the state. The movement ran downhill for want of direction and management at the hands of trained librarians, and the books were scattered and disappeared in spite of continued state appropriations.

Libraries cannot be run successfully in connection with the school system. They must be independent and in the hands of people who make library work their main work.

In 1892 only \$25,000 appropriation was asked for and vastly more done through the library department in furnishing stimulus, inspection, information, and expert assistance without charge, conducting wide correspondence, issuing circulars and lists. Before there was nothing but a mob of libraries; now the inspector visits every library once a year; goes to see that money is not wasted; goes full of sympathy and aid. A sworn report must be made once a year, giving certain facts. Legislation in library interest is looked after, and the apportionment of state aid. A smaller amount of money does more good if followed up. \$200 to \$400 is granted to each library for purchase of books approved by the department. Immoral and weak books, and sectarian and partisan books must be rejected if already given; those unsuited to the constituency and bad editions are to be avoided.

A duplicate department is provided for exchange between libraries. Approved and annotated lists of new books for selection from each year with supplementary lists are published, and the travelling library system has been successfully established. All these various functions are secured by a department at the state capital and the careful study of the library interests of the state.

Miss M. E. Hazeltine, of Jamestown, N. Y., read a paper on maintaining the public library by endowment, in which she claimed that all corporations and institutions that in any way exist for the public, seek endowment *from the*

people, *for the people*, such as schools, colleges, churches, hospitals, art galleries, etc. Then why should not libraries be endowed? Library endowments are of three classes—partial, entire, and conditional.

There are many libraries, some even supported by taxpayers, which have had funds given them the interest of which goes to buy books of a certain class or to maintain a certain department. Others have a partial endowment, but depend for their chief support on fees; but these are apt to lag for want of public support. They are, however, a start in the right direction, and may eventually become the basis of free public libraries.

In the class of wholly endowed libraries we have, first, the large reference libraries in our cities and the college library. The large free reference library, unless a state or government library, is impossible without entire endowment, as it is not right to take the money of poor men to furnish expensive reference-books for professional men. But we are to discuss this principle in its application to free public libraries in small cities or towns. First, the condition of lethargy must be overcome; it is difficult to get people to tax themselves for libraries; they think they need many other things more. Secondly, they think a library cannot be afforded, and the community drifts along ignorant of its need or powerless to help itself. There are many places blessed with endowed free libraries which otherwise would have had none. The statement that endowed libraries are not appreciated because they cost the people nothing is not well founded. It takes time to educate a community to use a library, it is true, but much more time to educate people to tax themselves to found and support a library than to use one already established by endowment. They will soon learn to appreciate it. It is talked of, shown to visitors, is the pride of the town, and, best of all, comes to be freely used. The circulation of our Prendergast Library increased in four years from 30,000 to 50,000, and the use of the reading and reference rooms from 2000 to 19,000. 2000 of the latter were earnest students, and the per cent. of fiction in circulation fell off 3½ per cent. Literary clubs have been organized, and professional men, teachers, and pupils are regular visitors. Many letters have been received showing that endowed libraries are appreciated.

To three-fifths of the people it makes no difference whether the library be endowed or tax-supported.

Endowed libraries are free from the influence of politics; their trustees chosen for their intelligence and ability, not at dictation of a party boss, and their income fixed, and not dependent on the will of selfish politicians. Therefore their work goes steadily on.

The Carnegie libraries are admirable examples of the conditionally supported. Mr. Carnegie gives for the foundation on the pledge of the people to maintain. He helps the people to help themselves. The ideal plan, where the public spirit of a single citizen meets the public spirit of all the citizens; the munificence of one

making possible what the munificence, often the self-sacrifice of all, maintains.

The whole matter resolves itself into an axiom for every community. Get a library, by endowment, by taxation, or by both. Its success depends not so much on its means of maintenance as on its management, its selection of books, and its use especially by the young.

Mr. J. M. Brandegee, of Utica, believed it impossible to have a fixed rule for the whole state. The ideal condition is a generously endowed library with the larger proportion of its funds devoted to administration, and a good board of trustees. State aid implies state supervision, and to commit the custody of a library to political action is a dangerous experiment. The ideal library does not flourish under municipal control; there may be supervision and representation on the managing board, and ample support without full control. But where the alternative is between rate support and common council as trustees and no library, take the library and what support it can get. The politicians do not dare oppose so popular an institution.

Library funds should be separate from school funds, and disbursed by others than those who have control of the schools, to whom the schools are of the highest importance, and by whom library interests would be neglected. The library is not wholly educational since fiction constitutes the largest proportion of its circulation; therefore it should not be administered by the school authorities.

Best library is one largely endowed, supported by taxation. Where endowment cannot be had there should be recourse to taxation.

Mr. W. R. Eastman referred to the support of libraries by subscription as soon becoming wearisome to the people.

In response to a question as to why the state should not do as much for the libraries as for the schools, Mr. Dewey said that under the subsidy clause money may be given to an endowed library at the rate of 10 cents per volume of circulation.

Mrs. Nellie De G. Doubleday, of Bay Ridge, made a full and very interesting statement on "How to start a library movement." When there is belief in a library in any community sufficient to warrant the starting a library without waiting for endowment, the way to start is to start. Bay Ridge, a small narrow village on the edge of Brooklyn, on account of low taxes became over-ridden with saloons. A reading-room was started, many books and periodicals were contributed; 100 new books bought from funds raised by a garden party. Telegraph station was established, with operator as librarian. Bulletin-board was put up, on which people could vote for new books desired. A telephone was put in. There was no savings bank, and children wasted many pennies; so a provident station was opened, and thus all classes were reached. Now receive \$200 from state; rest of money needed raised by subscriptions, fairs, musicales, etc. 1800 people in village; circulation increased from 75 v. a month to 1200 v. 4500 v. in library.

At Fort Hamilton a young woman started a

library in the fire-engine house, in a very poor population. She kept it going for two years, but it got so noisy the firemen put it out. Young woman was discouraged, and offered the books to Bay Ridge. Bay Ridge people realized the necessity of a library at Fort Hamilton. State gave aid, and library did so well that at a fair \$1000 was raised. This was applied to a new building. Last year a very successful movement was started at Bath Beach.

The question-box was opened, and a few questions read and answered: Ought there to be an age limit in admitting children to reading-room and library? Answer: It is a wise precaution to have children under 12 bring written endorsement of parent or guardian.

Is it wise to limit number of tickets issued to one family? No; but the reserve system is the solution.

What is the best method of accessioning duplicates bought for temporary use? A separate accession-book might be used.

How can duplicates be disposed of? Mercantile and society libraries publish sale catalogs. If good send to University settlement; if not good burn.

There was also a call for a full descriptive catalog of new books.

The question of collation of books as received led up to an amusing and spirited discussion in which Messrs. Wing, Peck, Hill, Dewey, and others took part.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

Voted, That we assure the Young Men's Christian Association of New York of our very hearty and grateful appreciation of their kindness in placing these convenient rooms at our disposal for the meetings of to-day. Adjourned.

(NOTE.—These minutes have been prepared from the excellent notes taken during the sessions by Miss J. A. Rathbone, Sec. N. Y. Lib. Club.)

TENTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

At about 6:30 p.m. the members and guests began to assemble at Clark's, 22 West 23d St., and at 7 o'clock Pres. Stevens, of the club, with Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart and Mrs. Stevens, led the informal procession of guests and members to the number of 125 to the dining-rooms. Here all were soon engaged in conning the eight-page literary menu that had been provided, proving the quality of the eight-course dinner, and criticising the fitness or misfitness of the 117 quotations.

With the *café*, Pres. Stevens arose and extended to our guests our hearty welcome and cordial hospitality. Although but 10 years old, the club, he said, had long passed the age of accountability. It was the parent organization of all similar clubs. The librarian's field of usefulness is beyond limitation; it began in the glory of Nineveh, 667 B.C. Between the brick tablets of Nineveh and the invention of printing in 1422 or 1442 falls the wonderful ms. age. With printed books the dark ages began to

break away and libraries began their remarkable growth. In Europe there are over 100 libraries of 100,000 v. each. The libraries of Europe contain 21,000,000 v.; in those of America there are 50,000,000 v.; in Australasia there are 1,000,000 v. If private libraries are included there is a grand total of 100,000,000 v. in Europe, America, and Australasia. What a wilderness of books through which the librarian is expected to blaze paths for the reading world! a world that numbers 60,000,000 people in England and her colonies, and 70,000,000 more in America. In the 3000 libraries of Great Britain and America there are probably 10,000 employees, most of whom might be classed as librarians.

Only 20 years ago was made the first attempt to organize any portion of this array of talent, when the A. L. A. was founded. During this period library history and sentiment has wonderfully developed.

After the rendering of a fine number by the Rubinstein Ladies' Quartet, Pres. Stevens introduced Mr. Rossiter Johnson as the first speaker of the evening.

"I am not so old as your president," said he, "who I think said he was born 667 B.C., nor have I any recollection of the dark ages to which he referred; the age when I hid my books under the fence and ran away from school was the brightest age of my life. I was proud when I began work for a daily paper, prouder still when I was transferred to the semi-weekly and later to the weekly; then I graduated to the monthly and felt I was at the top; then promotion came to the quarterly, but reaching the editorship of an annual had made me perfectly happy. The author ought to love the librarian. Anybody can write a book; any printer can print it; but the librarian alone can circulate it. Invention consists in writing something. We say the poet is born not made, but Ben Jonson wrote of Shakespeare,

"For a good poet's made as well as born:
And such wert thou."

"The most poetical poem in our language is Tennyson's 'Lotus eaters,' but Tennyson never ate a mouthful of lotus; but he had read the 'Odyssey.' Johnson's dictionary is full of the most original quotations, but for them he is indebted to others. Charles Dickens speaks of Charles's wain and the Great Bear as different constellations; Emerson does the same thing. The climax to Lew Wallace's chariot race in 'Ben-Hur' is a mechanical impossibility. Kipling in his 'Ballad of the workshops' speaks of the Tower of Babel as having been built before the flood. It would be well if authors haunted the libraries more than they do. If you are going to write, the way to be original is to know what others write and avoid it. You smile at this; I am pleased that you appreciate the humor of it. I suppose I have made that remark to at least 40 people who were authors and not one of them has smiled."

Prof. Franklin W. Hooper, of Brooklyn, spoke in glowing terms of the prospects for the future when through the organization of great institutes, fine arts, music, religion, society, and

libraries would come within the reach of all in one great building. The time of education never ends with growing humanity. The Brooklyn Institute and the Peabody Institute are the great people's universities; where the best concerts, the best lectures, the best museums of art and science, are open to 1200 or 1500 people per day. We can carry the idea of the book too far; people have yet to learn the true use of books. Our new building will cover six or eight acres; the library-room will be in the form of a Greek cross; that room in its relation to its surroundings is calculated to be the most beautiful that has emanated from the mind of man.

Miss Gertrude J. Nelson then sang Schubert's "Who is Sylvia?"

Mr. R. R. Bowker, being called upon as the first president of the club, addressing Mr. Stevens as his illustrious successor and his fellow-members of the association and club, "and Utlanders like Mr. Cutter," spoke of the double anniversary—the twentieth of the A. L. A. and the tenth of the club, referred to the fact that no less than 17 states had now state associations, and spoke of the great value of the librarians' influence on the national life, particularly in such emergencies as that fresh in memory, when there was vital need to appeal to the sober second thought of the people.

Mr. Melvil Dewey said: "Prof. Hooper says some things that seem visionary; but not so. He has thought for years on these matters, and he sees as some men can see under water; he is a seer. Many of us live in an atmosphere in which we see things which those outside cannot see. The same principle of organization goes down into our smallest towns and villages. The time of promise has come. There are some still who cannot get over the idea of getting and keeping books; they think books are to be preserved and cannot bear to see them worn out. When people realize that there are only 40 libraries to 40,000 liquor saloons we extremists will be justified in our crankiness till readers have an even chance."

Mr. Charles A. Cutter, of Mass., made some remarks on library prospects. Frank P. Hill, of Newark, was called on, but he had gone "over the river." C: Alex. Nelson arose with an ominous looking handful of mss., but they proved to be letters of regret from a number of guests who had been invited and were unable to be present. Pres. Seth Low, of Columbia College, where the club was organized, sent "Wishes for a successful gathering." Hon. John Bigelow, out of the city, wrote "What I should say if I were with you will, I presume, be all the better for being kept a year or two longer." Andrew Carnegie was at Cornell, to deliver an address on Founders' Day, the 11th. W. D. Howells had an engagement, and E. C. Stedman was too ill, but "would like to come next year." Edward King, Beverly Chew, S. P. Avery, Alexander Maitland, and Judge Henry E. Howland had previous engagements. Mrs. Ellen Coe Rylance telegraphed a "Happy New Year to the N. Y. Lib. Club." W. T. Peoples, W. A. White, and J. Schwartz, charter members, were unavoidably absent. Henry J.

Carr, W. I. Fletcher, W. E. Foster, H. L. Koopman, and John C. Sickley sent letters of regret with kindest wishes. Dr. Geo. E. Wire, of Chicago, would have been present, but felt it his duty to remain in Illinois and help organize, on the 23d inst., a state association, which should supply the missing link, and complete an unbroken chain of state library associations from Plymouth Rock to Pike's Peak. Some verses sent by the Dr. caused much amusement when read.

After the rendering of another fine selection by the Rubinstein Quartet, Pres. Stevens extended to the singers the hearty thanks of the club for their excellent contributions to the evening's entertainment, and declared the dinner adjourned.

WASHINGTON, D. C., ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting for the election of officers for 1896 was held Monday evening, December 23, resulting in the choice of the following list of officers: President, Dr. Cyrus Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution; Vice-Presidents, Mr. W. P. Cutter, Librarian Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Wm. H. Lowdermilk; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Oliver L. Fassig; Members of the Executive Committee, in addition to the officers just named, Mrs. H. L. McL. Kimball, of the Treasury Department; Miss J. A. Clark, of the Library of the Department of Agriculture; Mr. F. A. Crandall, Superintendent of Public Documents.

OLIVER L. FASSIG, *Secretary*.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25, 1895.

State Library Associations.

INDIANA ASSOCIATION.

THE fourth annual meeting of the Library Association of Indiana was held in Indianapolis December 27 and 28, 1895. There was a good attendance of librarians from all over the state.

The opening address was made by the president of the association, Miss M. E. Ahern. She said that all movements require organization and similarity of interests, that it was on account of this that there had been an attempt to build up the Library Association.

At the close of Miss Ahern's remarks, Mr. Charles Martindale, president of the Indianapolis School Board, delivered an address of welcome.

The leading paper of the afternoon was read by Dr. G. E. Wire, of the Newberry Library, Chicago. He took for his subject "How a busy librarian reads." He explained how every moment could be utilized, and how necessary it is that a librarian should keep well posted in all classes of literature.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Saylor, of Huntington, asking the association to take some action with regard to the distribution of duplicate volumes. He said their own library was rich in material which they would be glad to exchange for that which they had not.

Mr. Dunn moved that the libraries belonging

to the association should print lists of their duplicates, which are to be exchanged with the several libraries of the state. The motion was carried.

The president then announced her commitments, and the meeting adjourned until 9:30 the next morning.

The second day's session was opened with a paper on the Forbes Library, Northampton, by Miss Helen Tracy Guild, of the E. J. Hamilton Library, Fort Wayne. She described the beautiful new library building, and read an interesting letter from Mr. Cutter with regard to their plan of charging books, which is different in some respects from those with which we are familiar.

Professor Hester, superintendent of the Evansville schools, followed with a paper on the "School side." He made a strong plea for the librarians of the state to stand with the instructors in their endeavor to put better books in the hands of the children.

"Bibliographical aids" was the subject of a paper read by Mr. James H. Asherbranner, of the New Albany Public Library. He cited a number of reference-books which should be found in the office of a well-regulated library, and made clear the way in which one would find them a help.

The last paper was read by Miss Maud Henderson, of the Armour Institute, on "Decorum in the library." After describing the ideal library attendant, she said there were four things absolutely needful — promptness, cheerfulness, tact, and a quiet manner; but the most necessary of these is tact. If this quality is not natural, it must be acquired before one can succeed in library work. The matter of library signs and notices was discussed, the need of putting them in the form of polite requests, instead of curt demands, was set forth.

At the close of the paper the reports of the committees were made, and the following officers were elected for the coming year:

President, Mr. Rollin Kautz; Vice-President, Mr. James H. Asherbranner; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss M. E. Ahern.

The meeting then adjourned.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION.

THE Library Association of Central California held its regular meeting at the Mechanics' Institute, Nov. 8, 1895.

President Rowell presided, and announced the topic for the evening "Book-publishing and bookselling in California," and made a short address, in which he spoke of the close association of book selling and publishing to libraries. He then introduced Mr. Charles A. Murdock, who said: "I am asked to say something of the 'characteristics and vagaries of California printers and publishers.' Before another tribunal I would be protected in refusing to testify on the ground that I might criminate myself." He then explained that he represented a craft (printing) occupying a borderland between mechanics and art, it being a trade, a business, or a profession, just as you choose to call it. Book-making, he said, was a trade by

itself, really an art, and he described some of the vagaries of the provincial book printer. But a new era is dawning. He mentioned many books published during the past two years that were worthy the imprint of any publishing house in the world and that have been commended by the best critics in America and England. But legitimate publishing is a business, and, like every other form of business, must face the test, "Will it pay?" Authors think the publisher hard and grasping, but this is due generally to the utter lack of business sense often found in authors.

He mentioned several books that had and still have a large sale, and felt that San Francisco might soon take such a stride as Chicago has taken in book-making.

He instanced the success of the publishing of law-books in San Francisco, which are sold over the entire United States.

The expense of authorship, printing, and binding has averaged about \$150,000 per year for the past 10 years. Every portion of the United States is reached, and sales of considerable amount have been made in England, Scotland, and as far east as India. So far-reaching has this enterprise been that it has even controlled the supply, and some writers of law-books have taken up their residence in California. It has been demonstrated that "we can write books in California, we can make books in California, but if they are to pay we must sell them in the markets of the world." Book-publishing will become a successful business in California when enterprise and capital combine with good taste and a love of beauty in the effort to make it so.

Mr. Charles S. Greene, associate editor of the *Overland Monthly*, then read a paper on "California magazines." He showed that from 1853, only five years after the American occupation, up to the present day, there had been one or more literary magazines published in San Francisco during all but 13 of the 43 years, and that their average quality was very good. Tales of the early magazine men, J. M. Hutchings, Anton Roman, Bret Harte, Joaquin Miller, and others, were the staple of the paper. It closed by giving a cheering prospect of the magazine outlook on the coast and a tribute to the literary impulse that has proved a potent factor in Californian civilization.

Mr. William Doxey followed with a paper on "The import trade and notes of a random publisher." He spoke of his experience of 40 years in bookselling in England and America, describing the "Chap-books" which were sold by the pedlars throughout rural England, and of the large prices these booklets bring now from collectors. He held that the "American import trade had a great influence on the English market by the drain that is going on to satisfy the large number of libraries growing up here, and prices for standard sets must increase in as great a ratio in the future as they have in the past." In regard to book-publishing in California Mr. Doxey was very hopeful, calling attention to the many successes of the present, although we are only beginning this branch of

book art, and have to combat the strong prejudice of the East against California books.

Mr. A. M. Robertson talked about "Commercial conditions of the book trade in California, past and present," and pictured the situation in rather gloomy colors. He said that at the first glance there did not seem to be any commercial side to the book trade, as no one had acquired the fortune that rewards those engaged in commercial pursuits. He dwelt on the changed condition of the book trade in California. Twenty-five years ago the book trade of California was practically transacted in San Francisco.

The bookseller then carried a full line of school, medical, technical, standard, and new books. There were few weekly papers, fewer magazines, no large daily papers with Sunday editions to supply the public with reading-matter. He argued that the cheap library epidemic and the book discount were a large force in the breaking down of the trade that has resulted in driving so many large firms to the wall and is driving the existing houses toward stationery and blank-book manufacturing. It was difficult to compete with the bazaars, dry-goods stores, and home publishing agencies. He asserted that there was not a man in the United States who had made \$75,000 in the retail book business in the past 25 years.

Mr. Horace H. Moore, who had been a bookseller for 61 years, gave a most interesting paper on "Incidents of the second-hand book trade."

Mr. P. J. Healy prefaced his paper on "Book auctions" by an account of the origin of auctions, and said that the spear stuck in the ground holding aloft a red banner was then, as now, the signal for the disposal of spoils, only instead of the red flag of the Roman centurion we have the anarchistic flag of the sheriff. He affirmed that the patron saint of the auctioneer was St. Francis of Sales. He dwelt at length on the foibles and idiosyncrasies of the auctioneer and the auction "fiends," and gave many amusing anecdotes of both. He gave an account of some famous California book auctions of the past. He claimed that big book auctions were a thing of the past, that the whereabouts of great collections, like great jewels, is known to all collectors, and a valuable collection is now usually sold in block to some public institution. "It has been said that San Francisco is not a book centre, and that it is less so now than it was 20 years ago. There are many valuable collections of books here, but it is safe to say that our collectors buy more books in New York, Leipsic, and London than they do at home."

Mr. J. M. Hutchings, who published the first magazine in California, made a few remarks, and the meeting adjourned.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

A SOCIAL session of the Library Association of Central California was held in San Francisco at the California hotel on the evening of Dec. 13. At 6:30 o'clock all sat down to an elaborate repast, and after two hours and a half, Chairman

Rowell, with some very interesting remarks, introduced Dr. Edward R. Taylor as the first speaker. This gentleman entertained the members with an interesting talk on the fortunes and trials of a book-collector in gathering old and rare editions.

Horace Davis next gave a most entertaining and valuable talk on the early history of the Mercantile Library Association from the time of its beginning in 1853, when it began with rented rooms and a librarian, but no books, telling of its struggles and trials to gain a footing and how it became the splendid collection of books it is to-day.

William D. Armes then read a paper on "A shelf of old books." The paper was replete with interest.

Seated at the table, which was beautifully decorated, were: Dr. E. R. Taylor, Horace Davis, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Rowell, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Jellison, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Harbourne, Professor W. D. Armes, Professor Barnes, of Leland Stanford Jr. University, Frederick J. Teggert, Miss Green, from Sacramento State Library, Miss Wade, Miss Sawyer, Mr. Charles Murdock, William Doxey, Mr. Robertson, Andrew Cleary, and others.

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION.

THE program for the meeting of the New Jersey Library Association, to be held in Newark on January 26, offers features of unusual interest. The address of welcome will be by Hon. J. A. Lebkuecher, Mayor of Newark; Miss Cornelia A. See, pres., New Brunswick, will read a paper on "New Jersey's oldest library"; "State library commissions: their object and scope," will be discussed by Melvil Dewey, Albany, and S. S. Green, Worcester, Mass., and Frank P. Hill, Newark, will report on "Towns and boroughs in New Jersey without libraries."

Library Clubs.

THE CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

THE November meeting of the Chicago Library Club was one of the most successful in the history of the club. It was held at Evanston, Thursday afternoon, Nov. 7. This is one of Chicago's most delightful suburbs; the home of some of the most distinguished people of the West, the seat of the Northwestern University, and a centre of no mean culture and learning. The weather was the only inhospitable element.

The members of the club under the leadership of Dr. Wire, of the Newberry Library, first visited the Evanston Public Library, which is in charge of Miss Mary B. Lindsay, librarian. Miss Lindsay has handled the technical details of her position in an able manner, and is doing all in her power to extend the work of the library. The library is attractive and has been recently improved in its reference and circulating facilities.

With the assiduous attentions of the rain gods the Orrington Lunt Library at the north end of the college campus was reached, where a warm welcome was extended by Miss Lodilla Ambrose, librarian. President Gauss called the club to order in the assembly-room at 3:30 p.m., introducing first President Henry Wade Rogers, of the Northwestern University, who gave a cordial address of welcome.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and presented the names of the following gentlemen, who were unanimously elected to membership: James W. Ellsworth, W. J. Chalmers, Dr. Bayard Holmes, Rev. Wm. G. Clarke, prominent professional and business men of Chicago; also, J. J. McCarthy and S. Dowitt, of the Chicago Public Library.

The president then introduced Mr. J. W. Thompson, president of the Evanston Public Library, who addressed the club on "Library extension." Mr. Thompson spoke from the standpoint of the business man acquainted with library work and thoroughly aroused to the importance of adapting it to the requirements of local environment. His address throughout showed a high appreciation of the broadest possible ideals of the library movement.

Bringing the public library into closer co-operation with the public schools and literary clubs is one of the most important phases of "library extension," but it is in the field of stimulating systematic intellectual effort among those who have not or do not enjoy the privileges of training that library extension has the largest opportunities. "The growing disposition on the part of the masses to read is a favorable indication, and directing this inclination into channels of systematic reading, or if not systematic, to a higher and better class of books, is worthy of the best and most persistent efforts of all who are interested in the work of library extension." Mr. Thompson is heartily in favor of giving liberal access to the shelves and believes that "books will make friends by personal contact, when a stiff and formal introduction by means of a catalog or finding-list would scarcely elicit any kind of recognition." In conclusion Mr. Thompson said:

"Through your influence and as the result largely of your work I hope that at the next session of the Illinois Legislature statutory provisions will be made for the organization of a library commission to encourage the growth and extension of public libraries throughout the State. Experience has shown that library legislation follows the establishment and development of libraries and library influence. I bid you God-speed in your noble work, fully believing that through your efforts the cause of library extension throughout Illinois and the West will receive its greatest uplift and advancement."

Prof. Boltwood, principal of the Evanston High School, then spoke of the "Relation of the public library to the public school." After dwelling on the fact that the public school cannot specialize but must provide the elements of a knowledge common to all mankind, and that the first effort of the teacher is to make

himself superfluous by bringing his pupil to the point where the will and the ability to continue the work of education are fully developed, Prof. Boltwood delivered these sensible remarks which will appeal to every librarian and school-teacher:

"Next to having knowledge is the knowing where knowledge is. A professor of books ought to be in every university and college, and every school-teacher should, in a measure, be competent to do the same work. Every librarian should know more than the mechanical duties of cataloging and registering. Young people need special guidance in the choice of books. My observation makes me believe that many young people are guided principally by an attractive title in the choice of books. Great names in the brotherhood of authors mean very little to them.

"To make the public library co-operate successfully with the school first care should be taken in the selection of books. The bookbuyer of the library should by special consultation with teachers ascertain the special needs of the schools and supplement the deficiencies of their reference libraries. School-teachers should have special privileges in drawing and retaining books for school use.

"From time to time the books which are specially called for in the schools should be put into a room or case by themselves, and the pupils should have access to them under proper regulations.

"I was in the Chicago Public Library one day when Dr. I. Willard, teacher in history at one of our high schools, had, with the co-operation of the librarian, gathered in one room all books of value pertaining to Egypt, and was taking them up with his class, giving comments on them as to their relative value, and showing them where to study to the best advantage certain points which he wished further investigated. This is giving to the pupils of the schools some of the advantages that are secured in the universities of to-day by departmental libraries."

Mrs. E. B. Harbert, president of the Evanston Woman's Club, the next speaker, developed the methods by which the libraries could most successfully co-operate with the social and literary clubs. In the first place the books should be made accessible even though they suffer. The press could do much in the way of bringing new books to the public's attention and of interpreting the best thought of the day, thus bringing up the standard of a community's library requirements to the highest point. If librarians would consult, as has been done in Evanston, with the officers of the clubs and learn what the courses of study for the season were, and would then have the books set apart in some accessible place for their use, the libraries would be of more direct benefit.

Miss Stearns, who came from her post at the Milwaukee Public Library, at the invitation of the club, to present what the libraries are doing and hope to do for schools and clubs,

gave a stirring and enthusiastic address. Among other remarks she said:

"The supreme proposition of the library is the development of the individual. It is always through the children that the best work is done for developing the library. The librarian tries to reach the children before they grow up; she begins by putting a notice in the paper that the library has purchased a large number of picture-books. She tries to encourage their love of art, so that the children will want something better than the soap advertisement. She then leads them into popular legends, takes them into the "Heart of Oak" books; interests the boy in the Eskimo and in the lives of the heroes of the Polar world and in other books of travel.

"But this is developing the information side only, and not giving him much on the inspiration side; therefore introduce the fairy stories, because they cultivate the imagination; secondly, they inspire love of the beautiful; thirdly, they teach the kinship of all life. Poetry comes after the fairy stories.

"The librarian tries to get hold of the school-teachers. She addresses the teachers' meetings, asks them to come to the library and study their children's books. They select the books, which are then taken in boxes to the school, and guaranty cards are made out in the children's own names, so that they feel a sense of ownership in it. The books are kept for eight weeks; in this way the children will help in making your library grow in the esteem of the community.

"Again gather your little ragamuffins up in one of the rooms of the library, and bring out the beautiful colored books of Audubon on birds, and teach them a love for and admiration for God's animate creation. The Public Museum in Milwaukee has invested \$1000 in specimen birds to circulate about the schools. This has been a direct result of the library's efforts in this direction. One librarian could spend all her time in helping children. The secret of it all is to give the children what they like best and make them interested in it."

Miss Sharp, director of the Armour Institute Library School, then told in an interesting manner of the system, recently inaugurated at the institute, of circulating small libraries of 15 or 20 books among the poor families of the neighborhood; the great use of the books made by the children and the improved tone morally and æsthetically of the families in which the libraries are placed. Ten children in the neighborhood of a home are invited in to form a club and draw books once a week, a student from the Institute Library School being present to assist in selecting and talking the books over.

A vote of thanks was extended by the club to the speakers for the able and instructive addresses.

After adjournment the members of the club visited the new Orrington Lunt Library and the Garrett Biblical Institute Libraries, and enjoyed the courtesy and hospitality of Miss Ambrose and Mr. Bishop, the respective librarians.

EDW. L. BURCHARD, Sec.

Reviews.

JAMES, M. R. Descriptive catalogue of the mss. in the library of Eton College. Cambridge, Univ. Press, 1895. 16+125 p. Q. 5 s.

— Descriptive catalogue of the mss. in the library of Jesus College. Cambridge, Univ. Press, 1895. 8+122 p. Q. 5 s.

— Descriptive catalogue of the mss. other than oriental in the library of King's College. Cambridge, Univ. Press, 1895. 10+87 p. Q. 5 s.

These catalogs deserve more than the mere record of their titles. The compiler says his work "has been a labour of love." "The Eton mss. were the first to which I had access. When I was an Eton boy the college authorities generously allowed me to examine them. The kindness was a great one, and I hope it was not misplaced. The least I could have done in return was to put at their disposal such knowledge as they helped me to gain; and this is what I have tried to do. That there are mistakes and omissions in this volume I have not the least doubt; yet I cannot but hope that there is also a good deal of information which will be helpful to scholars both in England and abroad."

That the Eton boy made the most of the privileges granted to him, and that too *con amore*, will be evident to all competent to examine these catalogs understandingly.

We have collections of mss. of greater or less importance and value in private and public libraries in this country, but we have no catalogs of these collections aside from the verbose and grandiloquent auction-sale catalogs, with flaring display type describing the "magnificent" and "unique" specimens, each of more value than any other, and many a description more full of errors of fact than of actual knowledge of the mss. attempted to be described.

Each page of these catalogs by Mr. James shows the intelligent work of the compiler; his painstaking examination of the ms. in hand; his careful descriptions, elaborately minute and exact when fullness of detail was necessary; and his scholarly conciseness when this suffices. The expert cataloger who studies these pages carefully will find abundance of help and guidance in the study of mss. and need no longer regard them with dread and consign them as *bêtes-noires* to dark closets, or uncataloged, to locked show-cases.

In the King's College list advantage was taken of "partial descriptions and complete collations of the first 18 mss., made by the late Mr. Bradshaw, the brilliance and thoroughness" of whose work is referred to. The same expression may be well applied to the work of Mr. James.

The cheapness of the volumes puts them within the reach of all libraries fortunate enough to possess one or more mss. that ought to be correctly cataloged. C. A. N.

Library Economy and History.

Albuquerque, New Mex. The P. L. Association established this season the first entertainment and lecture course ever undertaken in the city.

Baltimore, Md. The finance commissioners have decided that the mayor and city council must pay the trustees of the Pratt Library the difference between the amount earned by the sinking fund of the institution and \$50,000, which was the amount stipulated by Mr. Pratt in his agreement with the city when the original gift was made.

Owing to the replacement of securities in the sinking fund, which had matured, the aggregate annual interest, which reached \$50,000 two years ago, is now \$497 below that point. The city has a credit of \$236 with the trustees, however, so that the amount to be made good this year will be \$261. Until 1900 the council will have to order paid an additional sum of between \$500 and \$600 each year.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY HANDBOOK. Curtis & Co., Boston, inform librarians that the mailing price of the "Handbook of the New Public Library in Boston" is 16 cents.

Bowling Green, Ky. Dec. 18 Dr. McCormack's fine library of 6000 vols. was destroyed by fire. The records of the State Board of Health were in a safe and are said to be uninjured.

Charleston, S. C. A Catholic Library Association has been organized with over 100 active members.

The objects of the society are the intellectual and physical advancement of its members, and the social enjoyment of their lady friends and themselves. A suitable building will be rented and fitted up with reading-rooms, library, billiard-room, and a social hall. All the prominent newspapers and periodicals will be subscribed to, and the newest books will be added to the library as soon as published. A gymnasium with the latest improvements will be built and provided with bath-rooms with hot, cold, and shower baths.

One feature is that the membership of this association is open to all creeds, and all members are allowed a vote in the management of its affairs.

The yearly dues have been fixed at \$6 for active and \$5 for contributing members.

Chattanooga (Tenn.) L. Assoc. At the December meeting of the directors a resolution was adopted declaring it the sense of the board that two ladies be added to the board of directors at the annual election next month. This is an innovation in library organization in the South, but it is believed by the friends of the library that it will prove a wise decision.

Arrangements were perfected for the lecture by Henry Watterson at the opera house on Abraham Lincoln, on the night of January 7. This lecture is one of a course which the association offers at moderate cost for the intellectual and moral development of the city.

School-children are admitted to the lectures at reduced rates.

Chicago (Ill.) P. L. In November 81 persons took a civil-service examination for positions in the library. 35 passed with percentages ranging from 93.35 down to 70.70, and these have been placed on the eligible list.

At the meeting of the board of trustees Dec. 14, 1895, one of the members, T. C. Diener, was openly charged with blackmailing and other criminal methods in dealing with contractors. A committee was appointed to call upon the mayor and demand his removal, but Diener reached the mayor's office first and handed in his resignation.

Covington (Ky.) P. L. \$10,000 has been subscribed for the establishment of a public library. West Covington has had a free public library for a year.

East St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. The new building of the Public Library at Eighth street and Broadway was opened Dec. 10. The structure cost \$55,000, is fire-proof, and finished with every modern improvement. H. F. Nelson is librarian.

Easton (Pa.) L. Assoc. Mrs. E. Warfield, wife of the president of Lafayette College, has been elected president of the association.

Elizabeth (N. J.) P. L. Assoc. The annual meeting was held December 10. Melville Eggleston was re-elected president, Miss J. L. Mahan, secretary, and Howard Richards, treasurer.

Erie, Pa. The Board of Education, in response to a petition signed by 300 citizens asking the board to abandon the building at 11th and French sts., and convert it into a public library building, has selected and appointed, in accordance with the provisions of the library law, a board of library trustees, who are now in position to act.

Flushing, L. I. The Flushing Village Association finds the continuance of the free library under existing conditions impossible, and the suggestion has been made that the library be consolidated with that of the high school. The question will be finally considered at a future meeting.

Glenolden, Pa. The Glenolden Free Library Association is looking for a building site on Chester pike. A charter for the association has been applied for, and will probably be granted. It is proposed to erect a building to cost about \$5,000. This association is composed entirely of women, who organized about five years ago. They now have over \$800 in the treasury.

GRAESEL'S BIBLIOTHEKSLEHRE. Edith E. Clarke, Washington, D. C., asks whether any one is engaged on a translation of Graesel's "Bibliothekslehre." She was given to understand last summer that she was the authorized person in this country to issue such a translation. A little later she saw a notice that Mr. F. J. Teggart was about to publish one. After a couple of months' delay he finally assured Miss Clarke that he was not in the field. Now it is rumored that some one else is engaged in the

work. Miss Clarke's translation, which has been hanging fire on account of poor health ever since 1893, is now somewhere about half completed, and, if no one else has the work in hand, she proposes to make final arrangements with a publisher.

Hickory (N. C.) L. Association. At the December meeting new officers were elected. It was voted unanimously to offer to every new member who brought in four new members a free subscription for a year.

Hillsboro (Ill.) P. L. In November arrangements were being made to open the new Public Library and Reading-Room at Hillsboro as soon as possible.

Hoboken (N. J.) P. L. Contracts for work on the new library building have been awarded as follows: for the mason work, \$29,288; for the carpenter work, \$15,431; for plumbing and gas-fitting, \$1,734. The committee will readvertise for bids for steam-heating, electric lighting, and painting.

Jackson, Miss. A library club has been formed which has already secured 200 v. and money for the purchase of 500 v. more. The library will be governed by a board of directors, and the fees are to be not over \$5 per year.

Jackson, Miss. The coming session of the legislature will elect a state librarian, which office must be filled by a woman, and is the only office in the state to which women are eligible. There are from 15 to 20 candidates for the position.

Kalamazoo, Mich. The Ladies' Library Association held its 44th annual meeting Jan. 3. Balance in the treasury, \$154. Mrs. Emeline A. House has bequeathed \$500. Miss Penfield having resigned as librarian, Miss Laura Wilson was elected to fill the vacancy.

Kansas City (Mo.) P. L. The new rooms of the public library on the second floor of the Court block, Seventh street and Minnesota avenue, have been opened, and visitors will be received from 2 to 5 o'clock every afternoon. Miss E. M. Dickinson, the new librarian, will be at the rooms during those hours to attend to the wants of the public. The list of volumes will soon be increased by a gift of \$100 worth of books from the Federation of Clubs, who are taking an active interest in the success of the library. Tickets of membership, good for one year from date of issuance, may be obtained for the nominal fee of \$1.

Kansas City (Mo.) P. L. reports "an increased demand for literature of the higher sort, and that only 30 per cent. of the books circulated were fiction, which is 10 per cent. lower than the lowest per cent. of fiction issued from 14 representative libraries in the United States." Pres. Yeager, of the Board of Education, suggests that some of the wealthier citizens "hand down their names to posterity" by gifts to the library of books, pictures, and statuary. Work on the new library building is progressing, but it will not be finished until next fall. The stone used comes from Carthage,

Mo., and is of a light color contrasting well with the gray granite foundation.

Knoxville, Tenn. The Lawson McGhee Library is used by both school-children and students of the University of Tennessee, from 300 to 400 coming in every day. Many of the university students come for reference-books, which they may take for two weeks; the reference-books most used are placed in the seminary rooms and are not allowed to be taken out.

Knoxville, Tenn. The Southern Methodist preachers of Knoxville and vicinity started a circulating library in November. It will consist of books on missions, preaching, pastoral work, exegesis, Bible criticism, and the higher criticism. Local preachers and supernumeraries are assessed at the average salary, and every travelling preacher in proportion to his salary, to pay for the expenses of running the library. Superannuates are admitted free.

Leavenworth (Kan.) P. L. Association. The members of six literary clubs have combined, and through delegates have organized a public library association. Suitable rooms have been secured which the association expected to open January 14. In addition to the books for reference and circulation it expects to have a free reading-room which will be supplied with many leading magazines and newspapers. The price of membership has been made so low that it is within the reach of all, and the management intend to make every effort to expend the money contributed to the best advantage, doing all the work of caring for and opening the library themselves. At first the number of books will be limited and the room only opened twice a week. But if the proper encouragement is given, the dawn of the twentieth century will show a handsome public library building that will be a credit to the entire community.

Leavenworth (Kan.) P. L. In November delegates from various literary clubs in Leavenworth started a movement which has for an object the establishment of a free public library in that city.

Lexington (Ky.) P. L. The Board of Education is taking steps looking to the establishment of a public library. Under the new charter the board is allowed one per cent. of the school tax for the support of the library, and half the fines and forfeitures of the police court, not exceeding \$5000 a year. The city is also authorized to make any arrangements it may deem proper with any existing library by which the latter may be merged into the city's library.

Lyons (Mich.) L. Association. The ladies of the association are to hold a bloomer social soon—"E pur si muove!"

Macon (Ga.) P. L. In December the board adopted a resolution by which a membership rate of 10 cents a month was offered to children belonging to educational institutions of the city, but the resolution was not to go into effect until 500 members have been secured. During the past year the membership of the library was doubled and the outstanding debt decreased

materially. This state of affairs is largely due to the efficient management of Mrs. N. L. Barbry, the librarian.

Madison (Ill.) P. L. A public library was established in November at Madison.

Manchester (N. H.) P. L. The library is hereafter to be open from 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. every day except Sundays and holidays. It has hitherto been closed from 12 to 1 and 5 to 7, and on Wednesday evening. The new arrangement is for the benefit of the working people, and is in line with the recent progress of the library under Miss Sanborn.

Memphis, Tenn. Cossitt Lib. Dec. 1 there were 8751 v. in the library, 4501 pamphlets, and 44 maps; circulation from Feb. 2-Dec. 1, '95 29,276 v. The use of the reference department, which is open to the public without restriction, was very gratifying. The percentage of fiction circulated was rather large. The library has been open every day in the year. Mell Nunnally is librarian; Miss Ida D. Scott, asst. librarian.

Mt. Vernon, N. Y. The common council have adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, This common council is of the opinion that a free public library should be established speedily, and

"WHEREAS, The Board of Education has adopted a resolution authorizing their president to appoint trustees who shall have charge of such a library,

"Therefore, be it resolved, That we approve of such action, and ask the president of the Board of Education to appoint said trustees, and request said board to apply for proper charter from the Regents at once."

Nashville, Tenn. The Masonic Library Association met in annual session Jan. 4, 1896. The year has been a hard one, but when the dues are collected the financial condition will be satisfactory.

New Haven, Conn. At the annual meeting of the New Haven Colony Hist. Soc., Nov. 25, Professor Franklin B. Dexter, of Yale, read a paper upon the "First public library in New Haven." Among other things he said that the library never had a habitation, never a custodian, and no readers so far as it was possible to ascertain. The library was the result of a legacy of 100 pounds left in the will of Governor Theophilus Eaton, who died in 1685. The library as then constituted consisted principally of bulky volumes of works, largely theological, and of but little use to the average reader. As expressed in the will the intention of the founder was to aid some school or college in the formation of a library. However, in 20 years' time a catalog was published describing the books as "the property of the town of New Haven." Where the volumes went to no one knows, as none of them ever found their way into the Yale College library, and none are known to be in existence to-day.

New Orleans (La.) P. L. The old Criminal Court building, corner of Camp and Lafayette sts., is to be remodelled on the first and second floors for a free public library and reading-room. The library will be transferred from the City Hall to its new quarters as soon as this work is done.

New York Free Circulating L. The subject of the extension of the work of the Free Circulating Libraries was treated at the meeting of the Public Education Society at the United Charities Building December 14. Professor Woodford, who lectures in the schools of economics and pedagogy at the University, presided. Dr. Edward Eggleston and Mr. J. F. Kernochan, president of the Free Library Association, spoke and strongly recommended the extension of the work to the public schools.

Newark (N. J.) F. P. L. The annual exhibition of books was given November 27, 1895, and consisted of the books on art and architecture. "The Basilica of St. Mark's, Venice," attracted wide attention.

Newburyport (Mass.) P. L. Added 709 v.; total 30,830 v.; circulation 38,830 v.; lost or missing 37 v. 5381 card-holders, including 29 teachers and 76 pupils. Classification and a permanent catalog are the immediate needs of the library, and a room for reference-books should be provided.

Newport, Ky. Under the new charter, allowing 1% of the school levy and half the fines and forfeitures of the police court for public library use, only \$1000 has been accumulated in two years. The friends of a public library are hoping for better prospects under the new council and school board.

Norfolk (Va.) P. L. In November Dr. C. L. Crow, professor of English language and literature at Weatherfield College, Tex., sent to the public library \$25, with which sum the library purchased "Poole's Index to periodical literature." Since March 1, 256 vols. by purchase and 150 by donation have been added. The subscription is \$3 a year; the reading-room is open to the public without charge.

Norristown, Pa. The Norristown Library Company was chartered March 18, 1796; at its annual meeting Jan 7 a committee was appointed to arrange for a centennial celebration, to be held some time in May. William McDermott, the oldest member of the board, was elected secretary. He has held that position since 1859, and has missed but two meetings of the company in 36 years. Miss Irene Hallman was made librarian.

Oconomowoc (Wis.) P. L. Assoc. has voted money to purchase new books and rebind old ones. It now has 1700 v.

Omaha (Neb.) P. L. Fifteen young women took the examinations for the vacant position of assistant librarian in November. The examination was more thorough than any heretofore held. Three were successful in passing, while the two leading ones had not had a high-school education; the best paper received 79 per cent.

Two months ago Librarian Barrows inaugurated a children's department of the public library. That it has proved a great success is shown by the increase in the volumes drawn out by the youthful readers. Before the establishment of this department it was thought to be a heavy Saturday when 300 books were called for. On Saturday, November 9, 411

books were taken out, and on the following Saturday 421. The circulation of children's books for the month of October was 4068. For the first two weeks of November it was over 3600, and the total for the month was expected to be something near 7500. The fact is now that the children draw out nearly 50 per cent. of the books taken from the public library.

This department is under the supervision of Miss Dora Heimrod. The greatest care is taken in the purchases of books for this department, and the very best reading-matter that can be placed in a young reader's hands is provided. The advance notices of all the leading publishers are carefully watched, and orders for all new works thought worthy of a place in the library are placed before the first book leaves the press.

Oxford, Pa. At the annual meeting of the Oxford Library Company in December the board of managers made a report and refused to serve longer. An indebtedness of \$340 was shown by the treasurer's report. A resolution was adopted to wind up the affairs of the company and pay its debts. A committee consisting of Dr. J. F. Rose, W. H. Way, and Milton Walker was appointed to carry out the intent of the resolution. A new company is in process of formation, the prospect of which is good.

Palatka, Fla. The winter picnic given December 10 at the library rooms under the auspices of the Palatka Library Association was quite a success, socially as well as financially. The rooms were prettily decorated with evergreens, moss, and tropical plants, and in every particular represented an ideal picnic-ground. The proceeds netted \$30, to go toward paying the running expenses of the library.

Pen Yan (Pa.) P. L. The lately opened free library is proving a most marked success. There are now in it over 1500 volumes, and its patronage is good, 120 names appearing on the list. 100 new volumes have just been added with the funds appropriated at the annual school meeting, and they are in great demand.

Philadelphia (Pa.) F. L. The *Evening Home Chronicle*, Philadelphia, Pa., November 15, contains an account of the opening of the second branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, with nearly 2000 v. on the shelves. It is known as the Evening Home Branch.

Philadelphia (Pa.) P. L. The committee of the Board of Education have turned over the library branches established by it to the trustees of the Free Library. "Branch No. 1, at the Wagner Institute, was opened for public use on the 15th of October, 1892, with 4941 volumes, and was immediately successful. On the 10th day of April, 1893, Branch No. 2 was opened at the northwest corner of Broad and Federal streets with 4220 volumes. Branch No. 3, on Frankford avenue, below Norris street, in May, 1894, with 7412 volumes. Branch No. 4, at Roxborough, in March, 1894, with 3201 volumes. Branch No. 5, at Fortieth and Ludlow streets, in May, 1895, with 7801 volumes, and Branch

No. 6, in Germantown, in October, 1895, with 3460 volumes.

"The committee found it necessary, in the interest of economy and to secure uniformity, to establish a Central Bureau, where all the books could be cataloged, prepared, rebound, and recased for all the branches. This Central Bureau was opened June 1, 1894, and was placed in charge of George P. Rupp, to whose judgment, earnestness, and zeal the committee testify. Mr. Rupp was subsequently made superintendent of libraries. Since the opening of the Central Bureau 32,627 books have been cataloged there, 4132 rebound, and 2176 recased.

"There are at present at Branch No. 1, 20,411 volumes and 12,890 members. At Branch No. 2, 11,653 volumes and 6460 members. At No. 3, 11,583 volumes and 5665 members. At No. 4, 8810 volumes and 4456 members. At No. 5, 10,495 volumes and 5019 members, and at No. 6, 3646 volumes and 1992 members. 6750 volumes are still waiting at the Central Bureau to be placed. The circulation for November, 1895, was 80,676. The circulation of these six branches may be safely placed in the coming year at 1,000,000.

"The aggregated appropriation by the city has been \$115,000. With this sum the committee purchased 73,848 volumes, established, equipped, and maintained the six branches, and paid the wages of 51 employees."

Piqua, O. At a special meeting of the Board of Education, held Dec. 2, 1895, the following resolution was presented and passed by a unanimous vote:

"Resolved, That the president appoint a committee to present to the city council the need of a public library, and ask that they provide a place in the city building for the Free School Public Library."

Portsmouth, N. H. The carpenters are now at work tearing out the interior of the old academy building, and as a result Portsmouth will soon have a good public library building. Something like \$6000 will be spent in fixing up the edifice.

Poughkeepsie (N. Y.) P. L. Additions 882 v.; total 19,748 v.; 763 pamphlets; circulation 40,485 v. Fiction 76.3 per cent.; juvenile 11.3; history 2.8; biography 1.3; science and art 1.5; poetry and drama 1.2; general literature 1; travel 3.5; miscellaneous 3.1. The limit of expenditure imposed by the city charter on the purchase of books is \$700.

Richmond, Va. An appeal was made by a committee of the trustees of the Rosemary Library in October for funds to obtain better accommodations and a permanent site, which will probably mean more subscribers and a larger revenue. The library, through the liberality of a non-resident, has an endowment of \$5000, which the donor will double if \$20,000 be raised in the city of Richmond for the purposes indicated by Jan. 1, 1896.

Rome, N. Y. Jervis Library Assoc. Library opened July 15; total circulation to Dec. 1,

1895, 15,288 v.; average of 129 v. per day; largest number drawn in one day 256. Several study clubs use the library and find the privileges very beneficial to them.

St. Louis (Mo.) F. P. L. 2d rept. covering first full year. Registration 26,064, four times as large as before library was made free. Additions 12,068 v.; total 101,503 v. Circulation, home issue 331,426 v.; library issue 40,628 v.; reading-room issue 16 5,359 v.; total 537,413 v. Fiction 42.26 per cent.

22 delivery stations have been established, at each of which books may be obtained twice a week. Expenditures for books in Oct. and Nov. were over \$2000; 1463 v. added; circulation 71,003 v.; registration to Dec. 1, 31,944; visitors in Nov. 47,721.

Five applicants for the position of apprentice in the library recently took the necessary examination. Three sets of questions kept them busy from 10 a.m. till nearly 6 p.m. Miss Marjory Dawson received the highest percentage and the position.

Salem (Mass.) P. L. During the year the home circulation was 108,971, of which 82½ per cent. was fiction, 7 per cent. historical, 4 per cent. arts and sciences, 3½ per cent. literature, the other 3 per cent. being divided among the other classes. Seventy-six teachers made use of the special cards, on which they took 731 volumes.

The accessions were 2232 volumes, and the withdrawals 464. The number of volumes actually in the library is 31,202. The highest number on the accession-book is 33,112, showing that 1910 volumes have been withdrawn during the six and one-half years since the opening of the library. Most of the withdrawals are the result of actual wear. The cost of books bought to replace other books during the past year is \$191.56.

There is no marked change in the use of the reference and reading rooms. The statistics show a slight increase in the use of the reference-room, also an increased attendance in the reading-room on Sundays and holidays. The library is now receiving regularly 167 periodicals, of which 17 are gifts. The average daily use during the year was 353; the largest daily use, on Feb. 23, was 872; the smallest being on June 17, when it was 44. The average weekly use was 2078; the largest being in the week of March 4, when it was 2739; the smallest in the week of June 17, the number being 1505.

The number of books in the library Nov. 30, 1895, was 31,202, classified as follows: Fiction, 7150; general works, 2433; philosophy, 402; religion, 1323; sociology, 2051; philology, 231; science, 1341; useful arts, 1611; fine arts, 1371; literature, 3516; travels, 2572; biography, 3426; history, 3275.

Sioux City, Ia. Books circulated in December 2739 v.; added 194 v.; number of new readers registered 72.

Shaffer Run, Pa. A very interesting and amusing entertainment was given at Rossman

School, Sugarcreek Township, December 20, conducted by Miss Alice Cain, teacher. The object was to raise funds to start a library in the school. A small admission fee of 10 and 15 cents was charged, and the neat sum of \$15.70 was taken in at the door.

Somersworth, N. H. The Manufacturers' and Village Library was started in 1841, its first librarian being Jesse Lamos; incorporated in 1853 under its queer title. In those days, however, the Great Falls Manufacturing Co. contributed yearly a generous sum to the support of the library, in return for the privileges extended the mill operatives in taking out books. At one time the company provided rooms for the library, but of late years it has given no pecuniary or other assistance whatever.

Circulation 4400 v.; additions 481 v. Jared P. Hubbard was elected librarian at the annual meeting.

Trenton, Mo. The Norris Library at Trenton received in December 300 new books.

Venice (Ill.) P. L. A public library was established in November at Venice, Ill.

Washington, D. C. Mr. C. H. Warden, of the Painters' Assembly, gave a complete set of the reports of the United States Labor Bureau to the Workingman's Library at the Labor Bureau, 600 13th st., N. W. These are the first books contributed to the above-mentioned library, but other donations from different persons are promised and will be received when the bureau has more commodious quarters.

Washington, D. C. A bill is now pending in Congress to give Washington a free public library, a municipal institution, to be maintained at the municipal expense. The withdrawal of the privilege which Washingtonians have until lately enjoyed of getting books on making a deposit at the Library of Congress makes the proposed municipal library almost a necessity to the large reading population of the District. It is probable that the library will be located in a central portion of the city and be open at night, affording a comfortable room for quiet readers. The public library established by the Washington Library Company before the war was located on Eleventh street, south of Pennsylvania avenue, on a portion of the ground now occupied by the uncompleted city post-office building. The books were afterward placed in charge of the Young Men's Christian Association, and a free library was opened in the Christian Association rooms, at Lincoln Hall, on Ninth and D streets, where the Academy of Music now stands. Thence the library was carried to the Franklin School building, where it now serves an excellent purpose as a school library. The legislative committee of the American Federation of Labor has been "instructed to co-operate with the committee appointed by the board of trade to secure from congress legislation favorable to the establishing of a free public library in this city."

There has been much quiet discussion and approval of this matter on the part of leaders in labor organizations.

Westport (Mo.) P. L. By a recent decision of Judge Henry in the Circuit Court, the county court was ordered to turn over to the school board of Westport the sum of \$8000, which has been held by the county since 1871. By a special act of the legislature passed in 1893 this money is to be used for building a public library.

Wisconsin Library Commission. The new Wisconsin Free Library commission was organized Dec. 3, 1895, composed of President Charles Kendall Adams, of the Wisconsin University, State School Superintendent J. O. Emery, R. G. Thwaites, secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Miss L. E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, and Frank A. Hutchins of Baraboo. Mr. Hutchins was elected chairman and Miss Stearns secretary. The object of the commission is to help to organize free public libraries in the state and to help libraries already established. Members of the commission will visit the free libraries at intervals, and a handbook containing much useful information will be issued soon.

FOREIGN.

CARDIFF (Eng.) FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES; a paper by John Ballinger. In *The Library*, v. 7: 300-317, Oct., 1895.

DUBOR, Georges de. The Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris. (Pages 63-79 of *Pall Mall mag.* for Jan., 1896.)

Grimsby, Eng. Out of 279,414 issues at the James Reckitt and Central L. only three books were missed.

London (Eng.) Library. Plans are being made by Mr. Osborne Smith, architect to the Bodleian and British Museum libraries, for an addition to the London Library, St. James's Square. Estimated cost, £17,000.

The *Fortnightly* for November, 1895, has an interesting article on "How to counteract the 'penny dreadful.'"

Gifts and Bequests.

MOSER, MR. JACOB, of Bradford, Eng., has purchased *en bloc* the 12,000-v. library of the late James Hanson, for many years chairman of the Bradford School Board, and has presented it to the Bradford P. L.

Newark-on-Trent, Eng. Gilstrap P. L. Sir Wm. Gilstrap, Bart., has given £5000 to the mayor and corporation for investment. The income of £1000 to supplement the stock of books for the children's library; of another £1000 for repairs and an investment fund; and of the balance for developing the general library.

Librarians.

AMBROSE, Miss Lodilla. An excellent portrait of Miss Ambrose appeared in the *Chicago Post* of Jan. 2, with a sketch of her work as librarian of the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill., during the past eight years.

BAILEY, Mr. J. Cushing, Jan. 2, 1896, succeeded M. S. S. Ely, resigned, as assistant city librarian at Baltimore, Md.

BALL, Miss. The Board of Education in Grand Rapids, Mich., re-elected Miss Ball city librarian Jan. 4, 1896.

BENEDICT, Miss Laura E. W., who from the beginning has been one of the most faithful and efficient workers on the staff of the Newberry Library, Chicago (Ill.), has resigned, her resignation to take effect on the 15th inst. Miss Benedict's latest work was a complete card catalog of the medical department.

BILLINGS, Dr. J. Shaw, late librarian of the Surgeon-General's Office at Washington, D. C., and editor of the "Index Medicus" has accepted the position of superintendent-in-chief of the New York Free Public Library.

BROCKWAY, C. D., of New York, has been appointed, by the clerk of the House of Representatives at Washington, as librarian in the house library at a salary of \$2000; and N. S. Gallagher, of Three Rivers (Mich.), has secured the position of assistant librarian at \$1800 salary.

BROWNRIGG, Miss, librarian of the Manistee (Mich.) P. L., has been absent on leave visiting the libraries at Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Detroit, and elsewhere.

BURDICK, Miss Esther E., the head cataloger of the Jersey City (N. J.) P. L., has become acting librarian since the resignation of Mr. G. Watson Cole. "The appointment," says the *Jersey City News*, "is a reward for faithful and good services in the library, and the trustees believe in acknowledging these services."

CARVER, L. D., state librarian of Maine, sent out circulars to the 100 or more libraries of the state, asking the name of the library, when it was founded, the number of volumes, and the amount appropriated by the town for its support. These statistics were reported at the Jan. meeting of the Mass. Lib. Club.

COLE, Mr. G. Watson, has handed in his resignation as librarian of the Free Public Library of Jersey City (N. J.), and at his earnest solicitation the trustees have accepted it. Mr. Cole resigns because of ill-health. Mr. Cole's resignation as treasurer of the A. L. A. was not accepted by the council; but Mr. Edwin H. Anderson, of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa., was appointed acting treasurer.

The trustees accepted with regret the resignation, and trustee S. L. Harvey is reported to have said: "It is with great regret that we

found that we had to accept the resignation. The formal acceptance was sent to Mr. Cole this morning. Mr. Cole has been a faithful servant, and words will fail to express our sorrow at his being compelled to resign the position he filled with so many sacrifices to himself."

When asked who would be named as Mr. Cole's successor Mr. Harvey said: "I don't know as there will be a successor. The trustees have now conducted the library for five years, and are well acquainted with the routine work. Miss Esther Burdick, the assistant librarian, who did the work of her position and that of Mr. Cole's during the past two months, has proven that she is qualified in every way to assume the responsibilities of the office, and with her here I see no necessity for the appointment of a successor to Mr. Cole."

His resignation took effect December 1. In accepting the resignation the trustees sent him a letter in which they testify in high terms of his ability.

His physician ordered him to take a trip to and make a long stay at Bermuda, and he sailed Dec. 12.

ELLIS, Miss Gertrude, has been appointed librarian of the Terryville (Ct.) P. L., the library hours being from 6 to 8 p. m. on Wednesdays, and from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p. m. on Saturdays.

FULLER, Miss Edith D., librarian of the Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge, Mass., is to give a seven weeks' course of instruction in the Library School at Albany, beginning Jan. 2.

GAYLORD, Miss Marion, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Green Bay (Wis.) P. L.

GILKEY, Miss M. A., formerly classifier at the Boston Athenæum for two years, and cataloger and classifier at the Mercantile Library of St. Louis, has been appointed chief librarian of the new Free Public Library of Washington, D. C.

GREEN, Miss Jeannette M., of La Grange, Ill., has received the appointment of Vaughn public librarian in Ashland (Wis.) in place of Merton Potter, resigned. Miss Green is a graduate of the Department of Library Science in the Armour Institute, Chicago.

GROVER, Rev. J. L., for 22 years city librarian of Columbus (O.) celebrated his 89th birthday on the 12th of December. He is in good health, and with faculties unimpaired attends to his duties every day.

HAMILTON, Col. Morris R., the state librarian at Trenton, N. J., fell while descending the stairs from the library on the evening of December 25, and broke his left arm. The colonel, who is 76 years of age, after his arm was set, returned to the library and his work.

HEDENBERG, J. W., has been appointed a member of the Chicago (Ill.) P. L. board, vice John M. Smyth, resigned. Mr. Hedenberg has been for 30 years in the real estate business, and this is his first official position.

HUTTON, W., librarian of Stirling's and Glasgow P. L., Glasgow, Scotl., died Oct. 29, 1895, in his 47th year. He had been connected with the Glasgow library for about 30 years; as librarian since 1888.

JOUNKIN, Miss Lulu, librarian of the San Diego (Cal.) P. L., was married Nov. 6, 1895, to Dr. Horace G. Anderson, of Denver, Col.

LONDON, Prof. F. W., of Burlington, Vt., represented the Library Commissioners of Vermont at the recent meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club.

LOOMIS, Mrs. Mary W., was on October 4 appointed assistant librarian of the University of Michigan, succeeding Anderson H. Hopkins, who resigned the position some time formerly to become assistant librarian of the John Crerar Library. Mrs. Loomis comes to her new duties after ample preparation. She was formerly a student in the literary department of the university. In 1879 she graduated from Lenox College, Iowa, with the degree of bachelor of arts, receiving her master's degree from the same institution in 1889. She is a graduate of the N. Y. State Library School (class of 1890), New York State Library School, and has had seven years' experience in library work, serving one year as secretary of the Iowa State Library Society.

PHILLIPS, Miss, of the Oneonta (N. Y.) Library, completed the recataloging of the books in December. She was assisted by Misses Anna Woodin, Beulah Carpenter, Ellen Hitchcock, and Lulu Hurlbutt, the work occupying five weeks.

SATTLE, Elmer C., ex-cashier of the Kansas City Safe Deposit and Savings Bank, has been made assistant librarian in the penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo. This position was filled by Ed. T. Noland the defaulting state treasurer, during his term of imprisonment.

STEARNS, Miss L. E., of the Milwaukee P. L., appointed a member of the Wisconsin State Library Commission by the governor, was elected secretary of the commission at its first meeting, Dec. 3, 1895.

WHITNEY, Lewis L., the first librarian of the Woburn (Mass.) P. L., and a member of the first library committee, died December 21, 1895, at the age of 70.

WIRE, Dr. G. E., has resigned his position as superintendent of the medical department of the Newberry Library, Chicago (Ill.). Until further notice his address will be 1574 Judson ave., Evanston, Ill. On the evening of December 27 a reception was tendered Dr. Wire by the Indiana Library Association and the library department of the Bowen-Merrill Co. of Indianapolis at the Commercial Club. Among the guests were Mrs. Stein, of the Lafayette P. L., Miss Elizabeth Swan, of Purdue, and Miss Maude Henderson, of La Fayette.

Cataloging and Classification.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH (*Pa.*). Catalog of books. 2d edition. Pittsburgh, 1895. O. 376 p.

The 9000 v. represented in this neat and compact dictionary catalog were received, cataloged, and the catalog printed in six months. The printing was done by the linotype process in about two months and a half. The decimal classification is used and the call numbers are printed. Capitals are used for authors' names and for subject headings. The majority of the titles are in a single line, though in some cases where contents are given they run up to seven lines. The year of publication is given and authors' full names. Future editions will give the additions inserted at place.

When the limitations of the linotype process as to variety of type used are considered, the appearance and legibility of this catalog call for high praise; and the added advantage of issuing enlarged editions in one continuous alphabet will increase the favor with which this process is regarded. We believe its possibilities are by no means fully developed.

C. A. N.

CLEVELAND (*O.*) P. L. The open-shelf: being a list of books added to the library, July-September, 1895. No. 3. O.

The full classed list, with its brief annotations, is preceded by a summary of the most noteworthy new books. An account of the first annual meeting of the Ohio Library Literary Association fills about three pages.

CONNECTICUT P. L. COMMITTEE. Report, 1893-94. No. 1, 1894. O. 116 p. pl.

A very interesting and valuable document.

— Circular relating to public libraries. 3d ed. No. 2, 1895. O. 18 p.

— Public schools and public libraries. No. 9, 2d ed. 1894. O. 12 p.

Contains select lists of books for school libraries, and of supplementary reading for schools.

— School libraries. No. 14, 1895. O. 8 p.

Contains the library law and list of books for a library to cost about \$100.00.

— What a free library does for a country town. No. 1, 1894. O. 4 p.

DES MOINES (*Ia.*) P. L. Bulletin number 1: Additions of June, 1895, opens with a two-page article suggesting books for "Summer reading." A classified list, neatly printed in double columns, with short titles giving year of publication, except for fiction.

EXTENSION BULLETIN (U. S. N. Y.), no. 10, October, 1895, contains a monograph on extension of university teaching in England and America; a study in practical pedagogics, by James E. Russell, Ph.D. "A most convenient

manual for those who wish to understand clearly this modern movement." The appendix gives a two-page bibliography of the subject.

EXTENSION BULLETIN (U. S. N. Y.), no. 11, November, 1895, is devoted wholly to study clubs and is a complete manual for their organization and management. A list and account of the registered study clubs in the state fills 64 pages. A few clubs not registered report some excellent work done. A list of over 50 syllabuses printed by the State University is given, followed by 73 pages of outlines of study pursued in [the registered clubs. Statistics of 164 clubs in N. Y. state and of 12 outside the state are given. A good index closes this valuable number.

EXTENSION BULLETIN (U. S. N. Y.), no. 12, December, 1895, is the Report of the Extension Department for 1894, showing that 33 libraries were chartered, admitted, and registered during the year ending Sept. 30, 1894. Reveals an immense amount of excellent work accomplished.

FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM (*Chicago, Ill.*) Annual report of the Director, to the Board of Trustees, for the year 1894-95. Chicago, 1895. O. 79 p.

Contains list of accessions from Oct. 1, 1894 to Oct. 1, 1895.

FOSTER'S MONTHLY REFERENCE LISTS (Providence P. L. *Bulletin*) for November cover John Keats and Old Testament study; for December, Polar exploration (Arctic and Antarctic), five pages, and Torquato Tasso, two pages, each with valuable notes. The 12 Bulletins for the year (volume 1) contain 25 reference lists. An index is issued with the Bulletin for January.

JERSEY CITY (*N. J.*) F. P. L. Supplement, no. 3, to the Alphabetical finding-list. May 1, 1895. Jersey City, N. J., 1895. [8]+412 p. Q.

This supplement contains books added to the library since Jan. 1, 1893; books in foreign languages, the names of the authors of which have, for convenience, been grouped in alphabetical order under the headings French language, German language, and Italian language; books belonging to series; periodicals, over 6000 v. of which are included in Poole's Index; and local and state publications. The printing occupied from May 3 to July 29.

Mr. Cole has been remarkably successful in the selection of type for his catalog. The black face selected for the catch-words and call numbers is in marked contrast, and yet in closest harmony, with the beautifully clear-cut face of the Roman, which, even in the smallest size used for contents, is marvellously distinct and legible. The experienced eye can readily take in whole titles at a glance. The paper and presswork are excellent. The cataloging is of Mr. Cole's best, and the catalog may well be taken as a model, in all respects, for finding-lists or more pretentious catalog work.

C. A. N.

JERSEY CITY (*N. J.*) P. L. Venezuela reading: Books and articles in the P. L. which bear on the pending dispute.

A list of about 40 titles, compiled by Miss Burdick and published in the *News* of December 23, 1895.

OTIS LIBRARY BULLETIN (Norwich, Ct.) contains in its December issue a list of books in the library useful in the study of that period of federal legislation commonly designated the "Continental Congress," from 1774 to the time of the adoption of the constitution. The announcement is made of the opening of the library to the public on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 6 o'clock, commencing December 1, for the use of the reading-room only.

MILWAUKEE (*Wis.*) P. L. Our books, published by the Milwaukee P. L., vol. 1, no. 2, Oct., 1895, contains "A list of picture-books for very little folk."

PASSAIC (*N. J.*) F. P. L. Alphabetic catalogue; authors, subjects, and titles; compiled by Theresa Hitchler. November, 1895. Passaic, 1895. O. 8 + 219 p.

Well printed on good paper in clear type; without dates or imprints.

THE PORTLAND (*Ore.*) P. L. gives in the November issue *Our Library* a list of Recent additions, numbering 368 v. in the two months preceding. 1569 v. were added in 10 months.

ST. LOUIS (*Mo.*) LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. Catalog of the books in the library. St. Louis, Nixon-Jones Pr. Co., 1895. 7 + 762 p. O. hf-shp.

The books in this catalog were presented to the Library of Congress by the Association.

THE SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. BULLETIN for December has an excellent Special reading list on Primitive ways of man, well classified, filling three and one-half pages.

THE SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) L. BULLETIN for November has a list of the books by Andrew Lang in the library, with an extract from Brander Matthews's sketch of Lang in the *Century*. It also contains the Mass. Library Club's first list of select fiction, of 14 titles.

WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. Bulletin, no. 10: Books added in November, 1895.

Contains a Special list for mechanics, and also a list of Fifty books of the greatest authors.

WILMINGTON (*Del.*) INSTITUTE F. L. Handbook No. 1: List of 100 books for boys and girls in the grammar school grade. [Wilmington, 1895.] 16 p. Tt.

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BALE, Johan. Bibliographiana.—No. 1: The Laboryouse Journey and Serche of John Leylande, for Englandes Antiquitees, geven of

- hym as a *Newe Years Gyfte to Kinge Henry the VIII. in the xxxvii. Yeare of his Reygne. With Declaracyons Enlarged*; edited by W. A. Copinger. Manchester (privately printed).
- BASCHIN, O., und E. Wagner. *Bibliotheca geographica*. Herausgegeben von der Gesellschaft für Erdkunde zu Berlin. Band 1: Jahrgang 1891 u. 1892. Berlin, W. H. Köhl. 16+506 p. gr. 8°. 10 m.
- BAUDOUIN, Marcel. *Le problème bibliographique*. (In *Revue Scientifique* 4e serie, t. 4, p. 709.)
In relation to the late Brussels conference.
- BAUMGARTNER, H. *Zur Litteratur der Erdkunde*. Eine Zusammenstellung älterer und neuerer Schriften über Geographie und verwandte Fächer im Anschluss an die "Geschichte der Erdkunde von J. G. Lüdde, Berlin, 1841." Leipzig, Simmel & Co. 74 S. gr. 8°. 1 m.
- BIBLE. A most important discovery has been made among the contents of a library of a certain M. de Verna, at Lyons. Among the works was found a portion of the Pentateuch of one of the oldest manuscript Bibles of the world. For some time, says the *Petit Journal*, it has been well known that the Bibliothèque de Lyon possessed an incomplete portion of this rare work, but the strange thing is that the manuscript found in the library of M. de Verna is the exact part necessary to complete this bibliographical treasure, with the exception of one chapter from the Book of Judges. At what period this work was divided into halves is unknown.
- BIBLIOTHECA JURIDICA. Systematisches Verzeichniss der neueren und gebräuchlicheren auf dem Gebiete der Rechts- und Staatswissenschaft erschienenen Lehrbücher, Compendien, Gesetzbücher, Commentare etc. Mit Sach- und Autorenregister. 12. Auflage. Leipzig, Rossbergsche Hofbuchh. IX. 60 S. 8°. 30 m.
- BILLINGS, J: S., and others. *Composition of expired air and its effects upon animal life*. Washington, D. C., Smithsonian Institution, '95. 3 + 81 p. F°. (Smithsonian contributions to knowledge, p. 989.)
Contains a 2½ p. bibliography.
- BONNEY, Charles C. *Bibliography of World's Congress publications*. In the *Dial* (Chicago) Jan. 1, 1896, p. 7-10.
- COPINGER, W. A. *Supplement to Hain's repertorium bibliographicum*. London, 1895. 8°. (In preparation.)
- DAUZE, Pierre. *Répertoire des ventes publiques cataloguées, de livres, autographes, vignettes, estampes et tableaux*. Index biblio-iconographique. Précédé d'une préface de Paul Eudel. Janvier à Octobre, 1894. Paris, 1895. O. 14 + 1003 + 327 p. 36 fr.
Noticed in *The Library* for Nov., 1895 (7:374).
- DAVIES, J: F. and J: F. *Civics of Montana*. Butte, Montana. Sold by B. C. Calkins, '96. c. '95. 128 p. D.
Contains an 8-p. bibliography of Montana.
- EARLY Venetian printing, illustrated. Venice, Ongania, London, J: C. Nimmo, 1895. F. 228 p. 24 s.
Severely criticised for its shortcomings in *The Library* for Nov., 1895 (7:375).
- LAMBROS, S. P. *Catalogue of the Greek manuscripts of Mount Athos*. vol. I. Cambridge, 1895. 4°.
- MADAN, Falconer. A summary catalogue of western ms. in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, which have not hitherto been catalogued in the quarto series, with references to the oriental and other ms. Vol. 3: Collections received during the 18th century. Oxford, 1895. O. 9 + 651 p.
- MONATSBERICHT, Musikalisch-literarischer, über neue Musikalien, musikalische Schriften und Abbildungen, für das Jahr 1895. Als Fortsetzung des Handbuchs der musikalischen Literatur 67. Jahrgang. [12 nos.] Leipzig, Fr. Hofmeister. gr. 8°. 13 m.
- NATURAE novitates. Bibliographie neuer Erscheinungen aller Länder auf dem Gebiete der Naturgeschichte und der exacten Wissenschaften. Jahrgang 17: 1895. [26 nos.] Berlin, R. Friedländer & Sohn. gr. 8°. 4 m.
- RUNDSCHAU, Bibliographische, auf dem Gebiete der Theologie für Geistliche und das christliche Haus zusammengestellt von R. Hoffmann. Jahrgang 10: 1895. [12 nos.] Leipzig, Th. Rother. gr. 8°. 150 m.
- SEYDEL's führer durch die technische litteratur. Abtheilung: Physik und Elektrotechnik. Berlin, Polytechnische Buchh. 68 p. 12°. 50 m.
- STEVENSON, W. M. [Titles of Pittsburgh, Pa., publications from 1807.] (In the *Pittsburgh post*, Nov. 20, 1895.)

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

- Bicknell, Eugene Pintard (*Hypericum boreale* (Britton) and related species);
Fox, Walter Gordon (A manual of field engineering);
Goodnow, Mrs. Josephine Abbott Beecher, joint author (Great missionaries of the church);
Kellerman, W: Ashbrook (Catalogue of Ohio plants);
Scomp, Henny Anselm (King Alcohol in the realm of King Cotton).

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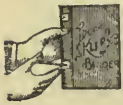
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Publishers' Weekly, July 6, Oct. 5, 1895. Also any of the August numbers, '95.

Literary News, Feb., Oct., Nov., 1895.
Library Journal, August, 1894; Jan., Feb., March, November, '95.

Boston Book Co., 15½ Beacon St., Boston, Mass.
Harper's Young People, Sept. 25, 1894.
Monthly Religious Mag., Mar., Apr., 1848; '54, all; Jan., '63.

Overland Monthly, 1868-70, '72-75, '83-86.
Quarterly and Monthly Illustrator, any.
Music, any.

New Church Review, any.
Catholic World, Oct., 1866; Nov., '67.
Amer. Journal Archaeology, v. 4, no. 4; v. 5, no. 1.

BOOKS WANTED.—Continued.

Boston Book Co.—Continued.

Amer. Catholic Quarterly Review, Oct., 1890; Oct., '92; Oct., '93; Apr., July, '94.
Nation, nos. 114, 115, 137, 107.
Hours at Home, May, 1869.

Bryson Lib., Teachers' Col., 120th St., W., N. Y.
O'Callaghan, Hist. of New Netherlands.
Brodhead, Hist. of New York.
Elliot, Jonathan, Debater.
Von Bezold, Theory of Color.

Butte Free Public Library, Butte City, Mont.
Encyclopædia Britannica, v. 15 to 25.
" " Supplement, v. 3 and 4.
Foote, Dr., Medical Common Sense.
Montalembert, Monks of the West. Please state binding and edition.

Case Library, Cleveland, O.
N. Y. State Museum Rpts.
Holton's Winslow Memorial.
Spooners

Ellen Chase, Heath Hill, Brookline, Mass.
The American Monthly, Nov., 1893; May, '95. Also price and address from sender of 2 copies August issue, 1895.

John M. Dean, Williamsport, Pa.
Lives of Great Men, by Page. Pub. by U. S. Bk. Co.
The Harvard Book Shop, Box 10, Cambridge, Mass.

The Dead Guest, Seaside Library, no. 788.
Prime's Pottery and Porcelain.
Book-plates, American and English.

Harvard Co-operative Soc., Cambridge, Mass.
Lawyer's Reference Manual. Pub. by C. C. Soule, Bost.
Am. Journal of Education, odd nos. preferred.

Lemcke & Buechner, 812 Broadway, N. Y.
Wallis, Voyages.

Mariner, Tonga Islands.
Melville, Typee and Omoo.
Stoddard, South Sea Idylls.
Moerenhout, Tahiti.

Grey, Maori Legends (Polynesian Mythology).
Gill's Myths of the South Pacific.
Ebner-Eschenbach, Beyond Atonement.
Sand, Monsieur Antoine, Eng. tr. Peterson, Phila.
Library Co. of Phila., cor. Locust and Juniper Sts., Phila., Pa.

Longfellow's Prose Works. Boston, 1857, v. 1, or both v. Clinton Bradshaw, by F. W. Thomas.

Newark, N. J., Free Public Library.
Library Journal, Dec., 1879; June, July, Aug., '80; Feb., June, '89.

Rowfant Club, Cleveland, O. [Cash.]
Prismatics, by Richard Haywarde, any date.
Cousin's Wine Press, 1854 to 1860, monthly.
Anything by Henry Timrod.

BOOKS FOR SALE.

Newark, N. J., Free Public Library.

Library Journal, Jan., March, April, July, Sept., 1889; Aug., 97; March, '93.

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THE
Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

Library Economy and Bibliography

VOL. 21. NO. 2.

FEBRUARY, 1896.

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Our First 1896 Talk to Librarians.

WE had expected to continue this one-sided conversation in the January number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The new year started in at such a rapid gait that before we realized how "tempis was fugiting," excuse our French, the time for even advertising copy had passed. Somebody has said that large bodies move slowly. If that is true, Library Boards must be simply immense. All who have examined the Rudolph Indexer are enthusiastic in its praise. They say they want it, ought to have it, must have it, etc., but up to date not all who have seen and admired the Indexer have purchased. True, a good many have, and orders are dropping in from expected and unexpected quarters, but so far the effect has been but to increase our appetite for more.

The sameness of excuses for not purchasing is remarkable. "Can't spare the money." All admit that to substitute the new system of indexing for the old would be economy in the end, but on account of finances very many decline to make the change for the present. This may sound strange to the many people who imagine that Libraries are all rich.

In the meantime, we must be satisfied, as best we may, with present sales and adoptions. We are bound to admit that for an ordinary article these would be very satisfactory, but the Rudolph Revolving Indexer is not an ordinary article. It is the invention of the age for Libraries. As heretofore, we are always pleased to receive inquiries and to take prompt care of all correspondence.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 21.

FEBRUARY, 1896.

No. 2

THE work of removing the books from the capitol to the new Congressional Library building has not yet been started, despite various reports to the contrary, nor has the method been fully planned. There is no piece of work in the library field so important as this, except possibly the organization of the new free public library in New York, because it involves practically the whole question of rearrangement of the great national library, which will in great measure determine its future usefulness. To add this work of removal to Mr. Spofford's duties, which are already an over-burden, would be a serious mistake. It would seem, therefore, desirable, as suggested last month, to complement the office of the librarian of congress with that of a superintendent of the library — the librarian to deal as it were with the interior of books and the superintendent with the exterior of books and with their housing in the new building. Mr. Spofford's special value has been for years that of the scholar as librarian, the guide, philosopher, and friend of congressmen and others who need his help as a universal index to literature, and it would be well from several points of view to enable him to continue in that chosen field by selecting as his co-adjutor a man of that high executive quality which will be required in dealing with the problems of removing the library. —

THERE is a cry from Macedonia, which in this instance is the great Northwest. Such cities as Tacoma and Seattle have been keen and generous rivals in material progress, and these two municipalities of the new state of Washington have an excellent example set them in library advance in the sister state of Oregon by the fine library in Portland. They are already in friendly rivalry in the intellectual development which assures and crowns material development, Seattle having at the moment superior equipment in the library field. The City Library of Tacoma, however, housed in the new municipal building and under the enterprising charge of Mr. William Curtis Taylor, who combines the experience of a veteran with the energy of new blood, has every prospect before it of enlarged usefulness if it can have more generous support, and a bill is now pending to give it, by an increased appropriation, facilities which will make it a really great and important library. Mr.

Taylor reports an exceedingly large turn-over of books, very creditable to the public of Tacoma and to himself, and we print in this number a communication from him asking information and other help from fellow-librarians. Much of the information asked will be found in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, where the reports of libraries are summarized for just such use, and possibly the remaining questions go into particulars of administration which it is not usually thought well to make public in detail. We trust, however, that librarians generally will accept Mr. Taylor's invitation to write to him, and if each will emphasize the importance to the city of Tacoma of having an adequate public library, as shown by the results in other cities, doubtless his hands will be strengthened and the legislators encouraged in assuring for the library the support which it needs and deserves.

It is good news that Mr. Dewey is about ready at Albany to utilize some of the great spaces of the capitol building for a clearing-house for duplicates from libraries throughout the state, following out one of the long-cherished features of his comprehensive library plans. The difficulty in the way of this particular plan has always been the lack of commercial basis for it, since the cost of storage and administration would probably be larger than any return in money for the work. As a part of the state library plans it has quite another basis, and excellent opportunity will be given in this experiment to test whether a commercial basis could be found for like work in other states with careful management. The department of *Books wanted* in the LIBRARY JOURNAL has been established to provide as it were a clearing-house by correspondence, avoiding the cost of a material storehouse for the books themselves. We shall be prepared to supplement this department by a list of duplicates offered in exchange, furnishing on a similar plan the complement of the *Books wanted* column. But the clearing-house for government documents, established by Dr. Ames while the public documents were under his charge, has proved of real and great value to librarians, and we trust Mr. Dewey's more comprehensive plan for the libraries of the state over which he presides bibliographically will prove equally a success.

Communications.

THE CITY LIBRARY OF TACOMA.

IF I were addressing a religious assembly I should say, "Brethren, pray for us;" but as we are only library folk, it may simply be said that the sympathies of your readers are invoked for the success of a new move for the City Library of Tacoma. Proposed charter amendments have just been adopted by the city council which, if carried at the election next April, will increase from two to three fold our library income. This not immediately, but in a few years. We have been relying on the rather uncertain income from five per cent. of the city fines and licenses. The new charter would place a library tax of one-fourth of a mill on the assessable property of the city. It will grow in value as the city grows; under the present arrangement it cannot. Our institution being economically conducted, it is hoped under the new arrangement to add, even in these times, 300 to 400 books monthly instead of 100 as at present.

Not as boasting, but as a statement of fact for friendly comparison, I ask if it is not unusual for a library of 3000 vols. to have a delivery averaging 13 times a year for each volume? Comments are invited on this showing. And while on the subject of comparison I solicit from your readers information, say by postal card, under the following heads:

1. Method of your library's maintenance?
 2. Number of circulating books?
 3. Annual loans for home reading?
 4. Income of library?
 5. Amount of all salaries? (or is this too delicate a question?)
 6. How many assistants has the librarian?
- None of these answers will be published, if the writer intimate any objection.

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I shall be most happy to correspond with librarians regarding an exchange for these books, and you will greatly oblige me by bringing the matter before the public through the columns of the JOURNAL.

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MICHIGAN STATE LIBRARY, }
Lansing. }

A POSTSCRIPT: I regret to confess to unjustifiable homicide in my "twenty years' retrospect." Mr. Reuben A. Guild, one of the few surviving from the 1853 conference, though withdrawn from the library profession, still lives his honored life in Providence, R. I. — and may he long be with us! I should add, also, that Mr. Dewey, to whom proofs of the article were handed at the club dinner, but who was not able to return them for a fortnight, when the pages had been passed for press, states that he was at work on the idea of library development, including a plan for a national association of librarians, a library journal and a library bureau, and later a library school, for four years before his relations with this office, and he considers that the department of "Library notes" in the *Publishers' weekly* was begun on his representations of its need in letters to Mr. Leypoldt while he was acting librarian at Amherst. He desires also to state that by himself and without knowledge of the intimate connection of the *Publishers' weekly* office with the other movement, he had worked out his plan quite independently, secured the most important associate editors and publishers who would take all the responsibility for the JOURNAL in Boston, and that he consented to the cancellation of the Boston arrangement and to the combination with the *Publishers' weekly* office in the belief that the bibliographical facilities could be better furnished from the New York organization. Mr. Dewey protests that my own name was inserted on the title-page of the first volume as general editor during his absence in Europe and without consultation with him. Credit should have been given to Mr. Dewey for the reports of the Co-operation committee, of which he was the secretary. He in large measure collected the material, submitted the questions, and prepared the reports. On some of these points my remembrance is confirmatory of Mr. Dewey's and on others he speaks for himself. I should be sorry, by any sin of omission or of commission, to seem to deny to Mr. Dewey any part of his large share, beyond that of any other one person, in the general library development. The New York Library Club and, I believe, the State Library Association, as well as the Library School and a great many other good things, are directly the result of his suggestion and inspiration. Without his enthusiasm and energy it would have taken nearer a century instead of half a generation to have accomplished what has already been achieved.

R. R. B.

DR. DZIATZKO ON GERMAN LIBRARIES.

BY LODILLA AMBROSE, PH.M., *Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Ill.*

THE larger libraries of Prussia united with other German libraries in preparing the German library exhibit at Chicago in 1893; of this exhibit an account was given in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for December, 1893. The complement of this showing of material appliances, the monograph, "The development and present condition of the learned libraries of Germany, with special reference to Prussia,"* was written by Dr. Karl Dziatzko at the request of the Prussian ministry of education. Dr. Dziatzko, the eminent Latin scholar, is also librarian-in-chief and professor of library science at the University of Göttingen. By permission of the author his brochure has been translated, and so far condensed as to bring it within the scope of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. American librarians, being thoroughly conversant with American library affairs, will be allowed to make their own comparisons between German and American book collections. Suffice it for the present writer to give as faithful a reproduction as possible of this sketch of German libraries, which deals particularly with those that serve scholarly ends.

The first German libraries were founded in churches and monasteries at least as early as the reign of Charlemagne. At that time there was a quickening of the enthusiasm for learning among the clergy and the laity, and some prosperous monasteries of the West-Franconian kingdom were diligent in collecting and multiplying manuscripts. For several centuries libraries other than these monastic and church libraries are rarely mentioned. Inventories of libraries of the ninth century have been preserved in part. In the succeeding centuries notices of libraries-varying in size are still more frequent. As far as individuals are concerned, princes and certain of the clergy and nobility are the leading founders of libraries at this time. Naturally manuscripts were used chiefly in the libraries to which they belonged, but instances of their being loaned on deposit of a pledge for their safe return are not rare. The

arrangement of the codices in numerous extant old catalogs is by subjects in so far that they are divided into several groups according to contents, biblical literature usually standing at the head, the church fathers, canonical and liturgical works following, and finally secular writings. Attention to the size of the books and the order of their acquisition is also conspicuous. The important office of librarian (*armarius*) included the supervision of the copyists, and was conferred only upon the older brothers of the monasteries.

From the twelfth century onward a revulsion in the inclinations and training of the monks is observable, and with it a change in the appearance and intrinsic value of manuscripts. The Crusades, the growth of cities and other influences brought different men and interests to the front. The Benedictine, the Cistercian, and the Carthusian orders were displaced by the orders of Dominican and mendicant friars. Hence the monastic libraries experienced a period of stagnation or decline during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. But knowledge was more widely diffused, and the demand for books did not grow less. As a result libraries as a whole did not retrograde, but changed their location and character. The newly organized universities with their great following of students required extensive and well-ordered libraries. The introduction of linen paper was an important factor in promoting the rapid growth of collections of books. To libraries connected with institutions of learning a certain permanence and stability was assured not possible to purely private collections. Aside from the greatest nobles, few among the clergy or laity had been able to secure their own libraries; but after the fourteenth century the number of private book collectors multiplied remarkably. The humanistic awakening, which so greatly increased the demand for books in Italy even in the fourteenth century, first influenced Germany about a century later. The art of printing lowered the price of books at least a fifth and so facilitated the formation of libraries that a new epoch in library affairs dates from that discovery (the middle of the fifteenth century). The close relationship between libraries and educational and religious

* Dziatzko, Karl: *Entwicklung und gegenwärtiger Stand der wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken Deutschlands mit besonderer Berücksichtigung Preussens; mit 1 Tabelle*. Leipzig, 1893. 55 p. O.

institutions was maintained, private collections often finding their way in the end to these repositories of learning.

But a new phase in library development was appearing, notably in Italy: it was the public library idea. Niccolò Niccoli (died 1437) bequeathed his rich collection of manuscripts to the city of Florence for general use, thus founding the first public library in the modern sense. As in Italy, so in Germany, though at a later date, the municipalities which were thoroughly established during the last centuries of the Middle Ages offered a soil favorable to the further development of the new tendency in library affairs. Even before the Reformation enthusiastic friends of literature and science bequeathed to the places where they were born or had lived libraries or the means of founding them. As a rule such collections did not have buildings of their own, but were committed to the guardianship of the nearest church or monastery.

The starting-points of the Reformation and of humanism were quite distinct, yet here as in other particulars the two movements show the same intuitions and strivings. Luther, in his writings, "To the councillors of all the states of Germany: an appeal to institute and maintain Christian schools" (1524), forcibly urges the same idea that humanism was fostering, "that neither diligence nor expense should be spared in providing good libraries, or houses for books, especially in the large cities which are abundantly able to do such things." While he delineates in strong terms the decayed condition of the monastic libraries, he does not fail to specify what the city libraries should contain in the way of "righteous books," namely, the Bible in the most important languages, its best and oldest commentators, the books necessary for learning the languages, belles-lettres, arts, jurisprudence, medicine, and especially history. The influence of his utterances is shown partly by the establishment of many new city libraries, and partly by the greater care bestowed on existing libraries.

These early libraries should not be judged by the standards applied to our public libraries. The circle of those who were permitted to use them was too small, and but few comparatively had acquired a taste for books. The use of city funds in the administration or increase of the libraries was entirely exceptional. They were public to this extent, that a larger number of interested persons than formerly had keys to the library, and hence the right to take out

books for themselves or others, also to take others into the library. Strangers were required to deposit some pledge before borrowing books.

We must place a far higher estimate on the efficiency of the libraries of all the greater institutions of learning, especially of the universities, if largely attended and pervaded with an enthusiasm for literary studies. As a rule books could be used only on the spot to which they were chained. On the deposit of a pledge they were given out for study, or that copies might be made of them. Many library rules of that day are preserved, and vouchsafe an insight into its clumsy administrative methods.

In this period from the close of the Middle Ages to the Thirty Years' War many princes and nobles founded libraries; on these the heirs often bestowed but little attention. Maintained with varying fidelity, they constitute to-day the basis of the many court, state, and family libraries in which Germany, as Italy, rejoices. To be sure the troublous times which have ever and again remade the political map of Germany have destroyed many of these libraries or robbed them of their independent existence. The character and administration of these collections naturally depended on the inclinations of their owners. Among the printed books in these private libraries the following classes were prominent: historical and genealogical works, travels, conversational literature in the different languages, practical theology, jurisprudence, and natural science. Learned theological and legal works were not numerous, but polemical theology was abundantly represented, particularly in the writings of the reformers and their opponents.

The cheerless time of the Thirty Years' War retarded the development of German libraries. Even those which were not plundered, burned, or completely neglected, felt the general impoverishment. Important libraries were carried to foreign lands as the booty of war. Following the Thirty Years' War, the reorganization of the modern national libraries of Germany by clear-headed and powerful princes is noteworthy. At the same time libraries connected with institutions of learning departed from the old ideas of increase and administration. To such libraries the reigning princes transferred ownerless private libraries and ancient endowments. In other cases impoverished churches and families willingly parted with libraries whose possession had become a burden,

Many of the new Jesuit colleges obtained their book collections from the ruins of other libraries. The old regulations were modified, for the great learned activity which dominated the universities and expressed itself in the countless printed dissertations of the time made an easier use of the libraries an unqualified necessity.

In the eighteenth century libraries developed along similar lines. The entire century, particularly from its second third on, exhibited a predilection for bibliographical works of every kind, and libraries enjoyed special care. The number of gifts and bequests of private libraries to institutions of public character has hardly been greater in any century than in the last. It was a time of gathering manuscripts and good prints, and of bringing together great and inherently important collections of books. The century was significant for the preservation and increase of libraries if not for their administration. However, more was done for private than for public libraries. The states were for the most part too poor or too much preoccupied to place large funds at their disposal for the purchase of books. The Catholic states, especially Baden and Bavaria, improved the opportunity of the dissolution of the Jesuit orders (1773) to enrich their national libraries with those of the Jesuits. As a new enactment, or the repetition of an old one, the delivery of required copies was imposed on the booksellers in the greater states of Germany, less on grounds of censorship than in the interests of the state libraries. England and France were the leading rivals of Germany in the collection of books.

As has been said, the preservation of book treasures in Germany in the last century devolved chiefly upon individuals. One public library, that of the University of Göttingen (founded 1736-37), made a noteworthy exception. Here was conceived the plan of collecting systematically the literature important to science and scholarship, and of making it accessible to a large circle. Great works were first secured, and lesser writings as favorable opportunity offered. In 1787 the library contained 120,000 bound volumes. The regulations controlling the drawing of books were very liberal for that time. Even in the eighteenth century the Göttingen library was distinguished for its completeness and accessibility. Its plan of arrangement and cataloging, which it owed to its chief librarians, Johann

Matthias Gesner (1736-1761) and Christian Gottlob Heyne (1763-1812), has long served as a model to other German libraries. The Göttingen library was pre-eminently fortunate in its circumstances in the last century. The great majority of the libraries lacked money and competent officers. The first grant of a considerable yearly appropriation to the Royal Library in Berlin was made toward the end of the reign of Frederic II. The library was moved to its present building in 1783, it leaned strongly to the reference-library idea, but was liberal in its hours of opening. The number of volumes (150,000) was then (1786) greater than at Göttingen, as it still is.

The French Revolution and the wars connected with it wrought important changes in German library affairs. In many cases new owners took possession of the learned libraries, and on the whole their present number and constitution was then determined. The carrying away of rarities by the French troops was a grievous loss. As many small states and cities disappeared, their libraries were incorporated in larger ones or alienated from the former owners. There were a few notable exceptions. The dissolution of Catholic foundations made possible a further accumulation of books in great central libraries. The example of the Royal Library in Berlin, and of the National Library in Paris, and of the Library of the British Museum, as well as of the University Library at Göttingen, invited to still greater concentration. In this transition period institutions of learning did not escape radical changes; if rendered unnecessary by the new grouping of states or the foundation of new universities in more favorably located centres, they were dissolved and their books were transferred to other libraries.

On the whole the learned libraries of Germany have made no great innovations in their character or collections since the first two decades of this century. The same cannot be said of library administration and regulations. The idea of publicity and the conviction that the great book collections should serve the purposes of general use steadily gained ground. It was an expression of this idea when certain state libraries for a time published their accession lists. But the libraries suffered to such a degree under the general exhaustion that followed the Napoleonic wars that with a few exceptions the method of administration was a very contracted one. Meanwhile the quiet fruit-

ful labors of librarians did not cease. New rules were enacted, and new catalogs were undertaken. Herewith, in spite of the greatest diversity in individual cases, certain consistent principles emerged. The strong tendency to individualism brought some evident injuries to German library affairs, but it also brought with it the essential advantage of independent experience gained under entirely different regulations. The success at this time of any attempt at uniformity in methods is very doubtful. Still, as the great libraries had many conditions and needs in common, and as imitation was natural, they often reached like results. Learned research was fostered by increasing the supply of books and by arranging them systematically. Certain privileged persons were admitted to the book-rooms. The use of books at home preponderated, the hours of opening were brief, the public reading-rooms were entirely inadequate, and the library force was insufficient. The merits and demerits of German library affairs are of ancient date.

Only in the court (usually the personal property of the ruler) and university libraries was there motion enough to prevent the rusting of the library machinery. The university libraries may have been one-sided in their accessions, but they were assured of a living development by their close connection with the needs and rivalries of the universities. The 40 or 50 years following the treaty of peace of 1815 were uneventful for German libraries. There is no way of knowing whether the great reorganization which the library of the British Museum underwent after 1837, at the hands of Antonio Panizzi, exercised an important influence on our libraries. With a few exceptions the resources for expenses were still so limited that sweeping changes, so inevitably requiring money, could hardly be thought of. The chief object was to accomplish as much as possible with slender means. The work of G. H. Pertz, of the Royal Library in Berlin, in securing lists of all manuscripts to the fifteenth century extant in Prussia, deserves mention, as does also the publication of the catalog of the manuscripts in the court and state library of Munich. Recognition should also be accorded the library services and bibliographical achievements of Friedrich Adolph Ebert.

Librarians who administered their office with enthusiasm and skill were not lacking, nor were useful works, as new subject catalogs and catalogs of manuscripts and incunabula. But these

works were not the result of a general interest, and were without effect on library affairs as a whole. The union of the librarian's office with an academic one was cheap, but on the whole the arrangement proved a hindrance to permanence and greater advances. Not infrequently great mistakes were made in seeking noted scholars for librarians-in-chief. In subordinate positions were often placed persons who had little following as docents and needed financial aid. This doubling of offices had the bad result that often one, and that one usually the librarian's, was considered incidental. Consequently the officials, in order to gain time for teaching and learned research, opposed every increase of public privileges, and even propositions for raising the book fund, for fear of giving themselves more work thereby. As early as 1850 the University Library at Würzburg departed from this custom, and placed at its head the professional librarian Dr. Anton Ruland; but for a long time this precedent was without imitators.

An essential advance in library affairs was due to the services of an eminent academic scholar at the head of a university library. I mean Friedrich Ritschl, chief librarian at the University of Bonn (1854-65). He undertook the thorough reorganization of the library. An alphabetical card catalog was completed, new subject catalogs were made, the books were arranged on the shelves by subjects (in two form classes), and the book numbers were a modification of the Göttingen system. Every division of the subject catalog had an index; however, an alphabetical index of the entire subject catalog proved necessary, and was undertaken in 1882 under Schaarschmidt. Ritschl introduced a method of fastening the cards of the alphabetical catalog into drawers, and precisely the same device was adopted by many other libraries. Not the least merit of the Ritschl reorganization was that libraries were placed professedly at the service of readers, and the greatest liberality was shown where it was of value in furthering scholarly pursuits. The previous union of two distinct offices, that of the university professorship and the librarianship, was hard to do away with; but the necessity of the separation became more apparent as the size of libraries and the number of their readers increased. Jena was the next university to place a professional librarian at the head of its library, calling one of Ritschl's co-laborers, Anton Klette, to that position in 1870. Soon

thereafter Klette championed the new view in an anonymous pamphlet. In the next five years at least 10 universities put this new idea into practice. The same policy of one work for librarians began to be followed also in regard to the subordinate positions in libraries.

To the users of libraries the new departure was eminently satisfactory. An essential increase in the hours of opening, greater consideration for the needs of students, and a timely remodelling of antiquated catalogs, ensued. In not a few libraries, particularly in Prussia, special funds were made available for cataloging purposes. The agitation on library matters induced others than university libraries to reconstruct their administration. A court library was made a public library, some city libraries assumed unwonted activity, some changed from the alphabetical bound catalogs to card catalogs. At this time the foundations of some special libraries were laid, as that of the imperial parliament (*Reichstag*) in Berlin, and of the imperial supreme court (*Reichsgericht*) in Leipzig. The commercial library in Hamburg is an older creation (1735). All three of these libraries have excellent printed catalogs.

One phase of German library activity after the successful close of the war of 1870-71 is still to be considered, that of library buildings. For the most part British Museum arrangements served as a model. Not counting smaller ones, over a dozen important buildings have been erected, and others are planned. After the war there was also an enlargement of library funds, and the salaries of officials were advanced and their number increased. Such were the forward movements of libraries in Germany, but any general library organization was as remote as ever. The independence of the universities was traditionally transferred to the libraries, as they belonged chiefly to universities. Yet certain centralizing measures were not lacking, such as the exchange of reports and transactions among the institutions of higher learning in Germany conducted through the publishing house of B. G. Teubner since 1875, and also the exchange (inaugurated in 1881) of publications between the universities of France, Germany, and some other countries. The question of uniform and comprehensive library statistics was agitated in 1882, but without result, save in the fact that many libraries are giving greater attention to the collection of statistical material.

The need of reasonable centralization and of greater uniformity in administrative practice still exists. Such uniformity would benefit library attendants, the library administration (now endangered by every change of officers), and even readers, who must now accustom themselves to so many different arrangements. The founding of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, edited since 1884 by O. Hartwig, the chief librarian of Halle, was an important step toward the unification of library interests. Much credit for aid in this direction is also due the Prussian ministry of education. Great inequalities in advancement were remedied (1889) by the adoption of a regular order of promotion among the trained officials of university libraries.

In 1885 the Royal Library at Berlin received a new organization befitting its location in so important an intellectual centre as the German capitol. It became its duty to collect German literature in its entirety, to obtain a choice selection of foreign literature, to keep all this in order, and to make it accessible for general use. A professional librarian, Dr. August Wilmanns, was placed at its head, and a fitting financial endowment was provided. The wholesome results of these measures, first apparent in an extraordinarily increased use of the library, are universally recognized. Thus Prussia has virtually a central national library. Since 1885 the Royal Library has printed catalogs of the publications issued at the German universities with subject indexes once in five years. Several university libraries are preparing catalogs of the earlier publications of their institutions.

The establishment at the University of Göttingen (1886) of a professorship of library science was an expression of the modern view regarding the problems peculiar to the librarian's calling. This professor is also the head of the university library, and as such is in constant touch with practical library affairs, and he supplements the subjects already taught at the universities with special reference to the needs of intending library officials. He gives lectures and suitable exercises on everything pertaining to books and libraries, on the history of printing and of the book trade, and on the arrangement and administration of libraries.

Uniformity in internal administration will be difficult to attain. As aids in that direction may be mentioned, K. Dziatzko's Breslau Rules (Berlin, 1886) relating to the choice of catchwords and to the alphabetical arrangement of

catalog titles, also K. Zangemeister's System of the Heidelberg Library, and O. Hartwig's corresponding scheme for the Halle Library (1888), as well as papers and suggestions in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* and the printed catalogs of certain libraries.

The Prussian ministry of education in its recent (1892) orders to the state libraries has taken an important step toward greater uniformity in the selection of titles, and has accompanied its order with printed "Rules for the construction of the alphabetical card catalogue" (Burg. b. M., 1892). At the same time the Royal Library began to print and send to other libraries the titles of its accessions with those of the Berlin University Library as a supplement, journals and continuations being issued in separate lists. In both of these libraries printed titles are being tried in place of written entries. Uncertainty as to the actual number of books in many libraries had often proved embarrassing. The Prussian Ministry of Education therefore ordered for March, 1890, an enumeration of the bound volumes in the state libraries. Another measure of the Prussian Ministry of Education was the establishing of a close connection between seminar libraries and the general libraries of the universities. These special libraries were first created in Strassburg, afterward in other universities, affording convenient reading and work-rooms, and often extensive collections of books, open freely many hours a day to the special student. These libraries are necessary complements of the university libraries, because, with the exception of Berlin, the general libraries do not fully meet the needs of readers in such points as hours of opening, work-rooms, and the immediate delivery of books. The general libraries will never be able to offer students all the advantages peculiar to these special collections; and the government intends to make them still more generally known and useful. Berlin and Bonn have cataloged theirs on cards. In the Prussian universities these seminar libraries contain at least 330,000 volumes, and outside of Prussia, 84,000.

There is increasing liberality in library regulations. The requirement of a personal bond from students before books may be drawn has been abolished in about half the libraries. If the number of books to be loaned to an individual is fixed, the rule is nowhere rigidly enforced. The intention is to render access to the catalogs as easy as possible wherever for local reasons the public cannot be granted abso-

lutely free access to them. Provision is made for reference libraries in the reading-rooms, and for printing their catalogs. In certain libraries the catalog of the entire collection is printed.

In the matter of printed catalogs of manuscripts most German libraries are strikingly behind those of France and England. The court and state library of Munich, with more than 40,000 manuscripts, and a few others are noteworthy exceptions. Figures taken from Schwenke's *Adressbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken* show that less than half the manuscripts possessed by the larger German libraries are described in printed catalogs. An attempt in 1874 to further the printing of such catalogs was not very fruitful. In 1889 the Prussian ministry of education commissioned Prof. Wilhelm Meyer, of Göttingen, to publish printed catalogs of the manuscripts to be found in Prussia, so far as they are accessible. He began with the Göttingen manuscripts. Printed catalogs of manuscripts had already been issued by the library of the University of Bonn, the Royal Library at Erfurt, the Pauline Library at Münster, and by the Royal Library in Berlin for about one-third of its collection. The Prussian ministry has also provided for the loaning of manuscripts and books to libraries outside of Prussia, and, on condition of reciprocity, to libraries under state control outside of Germany. The object sought is an international union of as many public libraries as possible for the direct interchange of their treasures that the investigations of their readers may be aided by foreign collections as well as their own. The expenses of these loans are shared by the readers and the universities.

The conditions for entrance into the library career in the state libraries of Germany are still to be considered. The doctor's degree, two years' volunteer service, and after their expiration a short technical library examination are obligatory. In view of the pressure toward this calling at the present time, these requirements will not operate prejudicially, but they afford the guaranty that the vocation will ever be esteemed a learned one, and that the employees of libraries intended for scholars will be skilled in learned as well as purely technical questions.

This exhausts the most important Prussian library measures of the last decade. What has been accomplished in libraries outside of Prussia concerns them as individuals rather than as a

whole. On many arrangements, contemplated or partly carried out, it would not be safe to pass judgment at a distance. That the larger cities of Germany have still done comparatively little for public libraries, and that the mighty movement for free public (or town) libraries which has since 1845-50 made itself increasingly felt in the cities of England and North America, that this movement has influenced us but slightly, is a strange fact. As a result, general culture is strikingly backward, as well as the comprehension of political and social questions by the mass of citizens. It is also true that our larger city libraries are modelled after the university libraries, and that both classes of libraries have similar old stocks of books. The regulations are as wide of the functions of a city library correctly conceived as are the accumulations of old books; and the funds in most cases are meagre. Yet, laying aside the narrow interpretation of their problem, several of our city libraries exhibit a noteworthy activity.

The number of learned libraries in Germany is large, and is hardly exceeded as a whole by any one country. Schwenke's *Adressbuch* (1893) gives 24 libraries containing 200,000 or more bound volumes of printed books 27 containing between 100,000 and 200,000 volumes, and 45 containing between 50,000 and 100,000 volumes. According to Schwenke the German Empire has a total of 1609 larger libraries with 27,091,288 volumes, its population being about 50,000,000; while the United States in 1884-85 had 5338 public libraries (containing 300 volumes and upwards) with a total of 20,622,076 volumes, its population being about 66,000,000. Although Schwenke's *Adressbuch* limits itself expressly to learned libraries, and excludes those for entertainment and technical purposes, the numbers show the absolute book riches of the German Empire. There is a lack in Germany of an aftergrowth of new libraries, as distinguished from the many great ones with large collections of old books. These old books give the libraries a great value for historical studies in the widest sense. However, in the last two decades the newer literature in different departments has received more adequate consideration. Certain wealthier libraries made such additions even earlier.

The German libraries are more liberal than others in the loaning of books. Hence the pursuit of learned studies is not confined to cer-

tain cities with large libraries, nor to individuals who are able to buy all the books they need. Libraries for reference use only find few advocates in Germany. Such is the rapidity and cheapness with which books can be returned by mail, if necessary, that it does not seem desirable to make exceptions to the loan system even theoretically. If the circulation of books for a year (1891) in 29 leading Italian libraries is compared with that in 29 leading German libraries, the circulation in the German libraries proves to be 20.8 per cent. greater, although the Italian libraries contained $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as many volumes as the German ones.

This view of the present condition of the libraries of Germany would not be complete without the mention of points in which they are behind those of other countries. I may indicate as desirable unconditional and easy access to the catalogs for all, alphabetical catch-word indexes to the systematic catalogs, immediate delivery of books called for, extension of hours of opening (with the exception of the Royal Library in Berlin), uniformity in cataloging rules, and in part larger reading-rooms and reading-room libraries.

A close comparison of the activities of German and of other libraries is well-nigh impossible; even among themselves such comparison is practicable in a limited degree only. First of all, only libraries in the same category should be compared at all. Even among similar libraries there is much that eludes precise statement and comparison that is nevertheless closely connected with their activities. Variations in the minimum age-limit of readers will affect the apparent results secured by a library as shown in statistics of use. Even for adequate comparison on a few points that yield to statistical treatment, uniformity in the principles governing the compilation of statistics is necessary. Desirable as it is, there is at present no such uniformity.

The German libraries have a long and changeful past behind them. Even in the darkest times of political stress and intellectual languishing, men full of love for books and for the intellectual inheritance bequeathed to them by the fathers have never been wanting. This fact gives us the hope that in the future likewise our libraries will be worthy custodians of the treasures entrusted to them, that they will increase the legacy of the past, and ever make it useful as the times shall require.

HOME LIBRARIES.*

BY MARY S. CUTLER, *Vice-director N. Y. State Library School.*

It is probable that some of the readers of the JOURNAL are unfamiliar with the idea of the home library. In a few words, this is its motive and its plan: To help the children of the poor in developing and ennobling their lives by giving them books and a friend.

The home library idea was evolved, not by a librarian, but by Mr. Charles W. Birtwell, secretary of the Children's Aid Society in Boston, a very old non-sectarian society. It grew up in a most natural way. He fell into the habit of lending books to poor children of his acquaintance and of talking with them about the books after they had been read. This took time, and the result was organization. The children were formed into little groups, books were bought systematically, and his friends were interested to form regular visitors.

And so a home library involves a group of 10 poor children, a library of 20 carefully selected books placed in the home of one of the children and circulating among them all, a visitor, who should be a person of rare wisdom and sympathy, who meets the children once a week, talks over the books with them, and during the hour gives them all possible help in any way she chooses. Each group contains both boys and girls from eight to 15 years of age.

There are several groups of children and several little libraries. Once in three or four months the libraries pass from one group to another. The personal element supplied by the visitor is quite as valuable as the influence of the books. It is hard to tell just what the visitor does. It is perhaps simplest to say that she is a friend to the children and that she studies how to help them. That means a great deal. The plan is elastic and each visitor chooses her own methods.

Doubtless many librarians listened to Mr. Charles Birtwell's paper on home libraries at the Lake Placid conference, September, 1894, and are thoroughly familiar with the central thought and its application in the parent libraries in Boston. To such I would like to call attention to some modifications of the plan in the Albany libraries, to a few new points which

we have worked out and old ones which we have emphasized.

It goes without saying that each book is read carefully by at least one member of the selection committee with special reference to the home libraries. It is not enough that a competent judge has read it without having that in mind. We are constantly tempted to give these readers books a little too old for them. They enjoy books which children who have always been familiar with books would be ready for three or four years earlier.

Visitors should be prepared for disappointment in the quality of the reading that is done. At the beginning of my work with the children I was delighted with their enthusiasm over the books. To be sure their choice was often determined by the attractiveness of the cover or big type, or the bigness or littleness of the book. I soon found that it was a rare thing for a child to read a book through. They would often say with pride "I read 30 or 60 pages" and were unwilling to take the book again, though claiming to like it. It is a slow process, but now after over two years they read with much more enjoyment and thoroughness. It was a long step ahead when the brightest child in the group began to read the continued stories in the *St. Nicholas* and to watch eagerly for the next number.

I wonder if these children are not in a way a type of the readers in our larger libraries. We fondly hope that there will be an immediate and hearty acceptance of the good things which we have spread out with such lavish expenditure of our own life, later we learn that even among the educated classes the genuine reading habit is the heritage of the few and among the many must be the result of a slow and steady growth.

I think we have improved on the Boston plan in dealing with the magazines. They take nine different periodicals and break the year up so that with one library of 15 books the children have parts of five periodicals. We put 18 books in each library and subscribe regularly for each group of children for *St. Nicholas* and *Youth's Companion*. In some of the groups the children have not cared for *Youth's Companion*. It has been given a fair trial since July, 1894, and we have just substituted *Harper's Round Table* as an experiment. Other groups, however, are de-

* Address, January 10, 1896, before the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club.

voted to the *Youth's Companion*. *St. Nicholas* is a prime favorite with all.

We do not buy cheap editions. Grimm's "Fairy tales" is selected in the tasteful Macmillan edition with illustrations by Walter Crane. Hawthorne's "Wonderbook" is given to them in the exquisite illustrated edition of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. We consider the illustrations and the dainty covers a part of the educative value of the book. We do not cover the books permanently, but give them covers which slip on and off easily that they may use them at their pleasure. A good deal of pride is developed in each group of children in having the little library clean when it passes on to the next group.

An effort is of course made to balance the libraries, putting in each a volume of history, one of light travel, and a book about animals like Mrs. Jackson's "Cat stories," "Buz," "Sparrow, the tramp." Stories of course predominate. Fairy-tales are by all odds the most popular and get the hardest wear. I have noticed that this is also true in the children's travelling libraries sent out by the New York state library. In one group of home library children Grimm's "Household tales" was such a favorite, and they called for it so persistently, that an extra copy was bought for their benefit and is almost constantly in use. They much prefer it to Andersen. The naming of the libraries and of the groups of children is a new feature. Of our nine libraries five are named for children. Any person, or number of persons, giving \$25 (the cost of a new library with its bookcase) is entitled to name the library. The plan is a popular one and several gifts of that sort have been received. In one case a small framed picture of the child for whom the library is named goes with it and the children seem to have a positive affection for the picture.

The children choose for themselves some hero to give the name to their club, or group. We have the Washington, the Columbus, the Anthony Wayne, the Lincoln, and the Edison groups, and one more recently formed, not yet named. It is a significant fact that the children knew and admired Anthony Wayne because they read about him in Coffin's "Boys of '76."

One beauty of the home libraries is the simplicity of the central idea and the natural relations between the children and the visitor. It is quite possible to combine with this much direct educational work. Games are almost always used by the visitors.

The skilful visitor, who should have the spirit of the kindergarten and might well have also her training, may develop through the games attention, concentration, and courtesy, qualities in which these children are especially lacking. It is an interesting study to watch the development of the game of 20 questions; e.g., from a wandering, haphazard medley asked in a slow and painful way by self-conscious children, to quick, intelligent, carefully planned questions.

To illustrate more specifically an attempt at educational work, the Columbus group may be taken as an example.

There is a badge consisting of a bronze medal with the head of Columbus, fastened with a knot of red, white, and blue ribbon. The rule of the group is the rule of the majority; e.g., when games are to be played a vote is taken and all are expected to enter heartily into the one chosen by the majority. By constant application of this plan and the discussion which it involves, those children have come to understand pretty well the nature of a vote. There is a child's life of Columbus and a scrap-book containing pictures of him. The Columbus group are appropriately discoverers, and as they have set out to find out everything possible about their own city, once a month the group goes out together for a long walk. They have visited the capitol, geological hall, city hall, the Schuyler mansion, etc. Every week 10 minutes are spent in studying the city, the name and location of the streets, the city buildings, the government of the city, its history and antiquities, the cleanliness of the city, etc. Many problems of city government which are taking the attention of the best minds to-day can be studied in simple form here. And this is real study. It is simple and elementary, but not haphazard, and what they get is definite and organized. It is not merely amusement, though they are interested and take hold heartily. A simple statement of each lesson is duplicated and put into the hands of the children. These will be combined into a handbook useful for all children in the city and suggestive for other cities. I hope that some line of study may be taken up by the other groups, each visitor choosing that which she can best develop. Light science would be attractive to some and of real service to the children.

Music, always a powerful agent in the development of life, is specially useful in this city because the music taught in the public schools is purely technical. All the children have met

on Saturday afternoons in the kindergarten room of one of the public schools to sing under the direction of a competent director of music who loves children and takes genuine pleasure in the work. This gives them a little repertoire of choice children's songs to take the place of the street songs which was about all they knew before, helps to soften their voices in speaking, and also serves as an excuse for bringing together the children of the various groups about once a month and making a little *esprit de corps*, which is desirable. It is wonderful when they are inclined to be boisterous and unmanageable in their games what a humanizing influence a sudden call for one of these songs will produce.

It is proposed to circulate games suitable for playing at home, also small framed pictures after the plan of the Milwaukee Public Library. The books are often read by the parents and older brothers and sisters. The games and pictures would help in like manner to sweeten and ennoble the home life.

But why should you be interested in the home library and in allied movements? Is it simply because they are an extension of the book power to which you have pinned your faith? There is, I think, a deeper reason. The movement known as the new philanthropy is one of the strong factors in our civilization to-day. The life of the community is the study of the man who serves the public as librarian. Nothing which is an essential part of that life is foreign to him. As distinguished from the old-fashioned charity which relieved individual suffering without regard to its effects on society, the new movement is characterized by two tendencies:

1. A scientific study of the principles of philanthropy: information before reformation.
2. A spirit of friendliness: not alms, but a friend.

Men and women of singular ability, of the best training and devoted to noble ideals, have given their lives to studying the problems of the poor, and so we have colleges and social settlements, free kindergartens, home libraries and a score of other new activities, one in spirit and in aim. But there are not enough trained specialists.

The philanthropic work of our cities is largely done by young ladies of the leisure class, quite a proportion of them graduates of colleges, and with a splendid mental, moral, and social equipment for the work. But they are raw recruits for lack of discipline. Caught in

the wave of enthusiasm they plunge zealously into work with very little understanding of underlying principles.

I have given a good deal of thought to this difficulty and am persuaded that there is a way out. I want to present it here because, if it appeals to you as wise, you will be able to help in putting the plan to the test of experience. As the difficulty is ignorance, the remedy is study.

A class in philanthropy should be organized, for serious study in the scientific spirit and by the scientific method, under the direction of as competent a teacher as can be secured. Only those who are determined to do serious work and who have ability to cope with these problems should be admitted. Every attempt to popularize the course should be discouraged. The class might be carried on under the auspices of a church, a charity organization society, or even of a library. The initiative should be taken by some one person with the requisite discrimination, tact, and organizing skill. According to my outline a two-years' course is needed, involving an hour of class work once a week, with, if possible, five hours a week of study, and for nine or ten months in the year. Laboratory work, that is, investigation of local conditions, should be carried on throughout the course. Lectures combined with seminar work seem to me the best methods of instruction. The literature of the subject is rich and helpful.

At the end of the first course there would be two or three new persons competent to instruct, and these might organize other classes.

If this class in philanthropy could be carried on in any city for 10 or 15 years, the charities of the city would feel the effect of the work. Instead of crudity there would be strength, enthusiasm would be supplemented by wisdom. The result would be the strengthening of the personal character of the poor and the enrichment of the whole city life. For we rise or sink together. The higher groups of society cannot develop without a corresponding development in the lower groups.

And so I call you to study the problems of philanthropy, to follow intelligently the history of home libraries, to approve this plan of training if it be wise, if not to work out a better one. Neither is this to go outside your natural course on the ground of sentiment. You are to study the community on broad lines that you may give back to the community through many channels that abundant life which is the highest service.

DR. JOHN S. BILLINGS.

It is not often that an appointment to an office of importance has met with such general approval and given such great gratification as that of Dr. Billings to the charge of the new public library in New York. There are three distinct libraries to be represented on the new board of trustees which assumes its duties under the act of consolidation. Two of these libraries have been long established, and have their especial characteristics and traditions. One has been famous for its collection of rare books, and the other for its works of reference and general utility. The third has at present only its potentiality for good. How best to harmonize the views of the members of the new board, and to blend them into one general plan for the best interests of the reading public, is clearly one of the most important functions of the new librarian. For this and for the other work which will have to be performed by him, Dr. Billings brings qualifications of unusual fitness.

He is well known, both in our own country and abroad, as the creator of the famous Library of the Surgeon-General's Office in Washington, which, under that modest title, ranks as the third of the large medical libraries in the world, and in many of its important divisions is unequalled by any other collection. In addition to the broad knowledge of what was wanted for such a library, there was added an intelligent pursuit of all the means that could be devised to attain the proposed end. Physicians opened their stores of books, and foreign governments sent their publications in response to his earnest appeals. Congressmen were led to see that a great national medical library is an important part of preventive medicine, and the result of this resistless energy is the noble library in the building erected for it, which is familiar to all who have visited Washington. Not content with this achievement, Dr. Billings determined, some 20 years since, to make a subject and author catalog of the vast collection he was forming. Government aid was obtained, and the outcome is to be seen in the 16 splendid quarto volumes of over a thousand pages each, known as the "Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office." This is, in view of the extent of the library, almost a bibliography of medical literature from the invention of printing down to the year 1895, and is unique and marvellous.

While in relation to his new office Dr. Billings's ability as a bibliographer is naturally first to be considered, he has other efficient qualifications for the position. He is known as a high authority in all matters relating to the hygiene of public buildings, and his plans were selected after much competition for the Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore, one of the most perfect institutions of its kind in existence. His counsel and assistance in the erection of the new library building will be invaluable. Furthermore, Dr. Billings is a man of the world, a man of affairs, firm, reasonable, and persuasive, and accustomed to the control of a large force of

assistants. It is not the purpose of this notice to recount his numerous contributions to scientific or medical literature, or to dwell upon the almost numberless honors which have been bestowed upon him at home and abroad, but to congratulate the lovers of books and the citizens of New York on this most fitting appointment, and upon the good fortune of its acceptance.

R. F.

[From advance sheets of "Physicians and Surgeons of America."]

JOHN SHAW BILLINGS, Washington, D. C., son of James and Abbie (Shaw) Billings, grandson of Jessie Billings, was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, April 12, 1837. Degrees: A.B. 1857, A.M. 1860, Miami University; M.D. 1860, Medical College of Ohio; LL.D. Edinburgh 1884, and Harvard University 1886; M.D. Munich 1889; D.C.L. Oxon. 1889; R.C.P.I. and R.C.S.I. 1892; M.D. Dublin 1892. Resident physician, St. John's Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1858-'59; resident physician, Commercial Hospital, Cincinnati, 1859-'60; demonstrator of anatomy, Medical College of Ohio, 1860-'61; passed army examining board, September, 1861; appointed acting assisting surgeon, U. S. Army, November, 1861; commissioned assistant surgeon, April 16, 1862; March 13, 1865, brevet lieutenant-colonel, U. S. Army; July 28, 1866, captain and assistant surgeon, U. S. Army; December 2, 1876, major and surgeon; promoted, June 16, 1894, to lieutenant-colonel and deputy surgeon-general, U. S. Army. Served from November, 1861, until 1863, in charge of hospitals in Washington, D. C., and West Philadelphia; then with the Army of the Potomac, being with the Fifth Corps at the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. From October, 1863, to February, 1864, served on hospital duty at David's and Bedloe's Islands in the vicinity of New York City; sent on special mission to West Indies; also acted on a board of enrolment, after which became medical inspector to the Army of the Potomac, and in December, 1864, was ordered to the surgeon-general's office, Washington, where he had charge of the organization of the Veteran Reserve Corps, of matters pertaining to contract physicians, and to all property and disbursing accounts until 1875; also of the library of the surgeon-general's office until his appointment, December 28, 1883, as curator of the army medical museum and library. He is in charge of division of Vital Statistics, 11th census, and medical adviser of the board of trustees, Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Dr. Billings was engaged in the reorganization of the United States Marine Hospital Service, in 1870, was in 1879-'82 vice-president of the National Board of Health. He is professor of hygiene, University of Pennsylvania, director of the Laboratory of Hygiene, University of Pennsylvania, and also of the University Hospital, and is a member of a number of scientific societies, among which are: 1882, Academy of National Sciences of Philadelphia; 1871, Philosophical Society of Washington, and ex-president; 1880, American Medical Association;

1880, American Public Health Association, and ex-president; 1882, American Social Science Association; 1883, American Academy of Medicine; 1883, American Association for the Advancement of Science; 1883, National Academy of Sciences, and treasurer; 1884, American Statistical Association, and vice-president, 1889; 1886, American Surgical Association; 1887, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia; 1888, Congress American Physicians and Surgeons, and ex-president; 1889-'91, American member of Council of the International Congress of Hygiene; 1890, American Academy of Political and Social Science, Philadelphia; 1893, International Statistical Institute. He is also an *honorary member* of the following societies: 1879, Medical Society of the County of New York; 1880, Medical Society of the State of New York; 1880, Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland; 1881, Medical Society of London; 1881, Clinical Society of London; 1881, Society of Medical Officers of Health, London; 1882, Société Française d'Hygiène, Paris; 1882, Medical Society of Sweden; 1882, Medico-Chirurgical Society, St. Louis, Mo.; 1883, New Hampshire Medical Society; 1883, Statistical Society of London; 1883, Connecticut Medical Society; 1890, Sanitary Institute, London; 1891, Harvard Medical School Association; 1883, College of Physicians of Philadelphia; 1885, Physikalisch Medicinische Gesellschaft, Würzburg; 1885, Gynecological Society of Boston; 1886, British Medical Association; 1886, Sociedad Union Fernandina, Lima; 1887, Association of American Physicians; 1887, Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London; 1888, Epidermological Society of London; 1888, Der Ärztliche Verein in München; 1890, Hunterian Society, London; 1890, Medical Society of Athens; 1891, Medical Society of the State of California; 1891, New York Academy of Medicine; 1893, Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium.

Publications: Reports in the Medical and surgical history of the war; On cryptogamic growths in cattle diseases, 8vo, 1869; Report on barracks and hospitals, "Circular no. 4," War Department, A. G. O., 1870, p. 527. "Bibliography of cholera," 8vo, 1875. Report on the hygiene of the United States Army, "Circular no. 8," War Department, A. G. O., 4to, 1875. "Medical Education," being lectures before the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, 1877-78. "Medical libraries in the United States," 8vo, 1876. Introduction to "A treatise on hygiene and public health," edited by Albert Buck, M.D. (Ziemssen's Handbook), 1879. "Address on state medicine and public hygiene"; Trans. Am. Med. Asso., 1880, xxx, 275-291. "National board of health and national quarantine"; Trans. Am. Med. Asso., 1880, xxxi. "Our medical literature"; the American address at the International Med. Cong., Lond., 1881. "Principles of ventilation and heating," 8vo, 1884; 2d ed., 1893. "Mortality and vital statistics of the United States," 2 vols., 4to, 1885. "Hygiene"; System Pract. Med. by Amer. Authors (Pepper's), Phila., i, 1885, p. 173-212. "Memoirs of Joseph Janvier Woodward"; read before the Nat. Acad. Sci-

ences, April 22, 1885. "Medicine in the United States, and its relations to co-operative investigation"; read before the Brit. Med. Asso., August, 1886, p. 30. "Scientific men and their duties"; president's address before the Philosophical Society of Washington, 1886. "On medical museums, with special reference to the Army Medical Museum at Washington"; president's address before the Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons, 1888, p. 32. "Mémorial of Spencer Fullerton Baird," 1823-1887; read before the Nat. Acad. of Sciences, 1889, pp. 17. "Index catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.," 1880-'94, Roy. 8vo, Vol. I.-xiv. "The national medical dictionary," 2 vols., 8vo, 1889. "Description of the Johns Hopkins hospital," 4to, 1890. "Vital statistics of the Jews in the United States," Census Bulletin no. 19, 1890. "Public health and municipal government"; address before Am. Acad. Political and Social Science at the Art Club, Philadelphia, Jan. 14, 1891, published by the academy, 8vo, 23 pp. "American inventions and discoveries in medicine, surgery, and practical sanitation"; read at celebration of the beginning of the second century of the American patent system, held in Washington, D. C., April 8-10, 1891. "Social statistics of cities" (Census Bulletin no. 100, 1891). "Can the reports of the sick and the sanitary statements of the different armies be arranged according to a scheme essentially uniform, for the purpose of gaining statistics of scientific worth for comparison of diseases, wounds, and deaths in times of peace and war?" Trans. Internat. Med. Cong., Berlin, 1890.

"Ideals of medical education"; address in Medicine, Yale University, 1871. "The objects, plans, and needs of the laboratory of hygiene"; address at the opening of the laboratory of hygiene, University of Pennsylvania, 1892. "The health of the survivors of the war" [Forum, xii, 642-658, January, 1892]. "Medicine as a career" [Forum, xiv, 725-734, February, 1893]. "Hygiene: text-book of the theory and practice of medicine" (Pepper's), Philadelphia, 1893, i., pp. 1-45, roy. 8vo.

And numerous papers in scientific and medical periodicals: "Municipal sanitation—defects in American cities" [Forum, 1893, xv, 304-310]. "Effects of his occupation upon the physician" [Internat. Jour. Ethics, Philadelphia, 1893, iv, 40-48]. "Reports on the vital statistics of the District of Columbia and Baltimore, and of New York City and Brooklyn, covering a period of six years ending May 31, 1860," Washington, D. C., 1893.

Dr. Billings married, in September, 1862, Miss Kate M. Stevens. Their children are Mary Clure, Kate Sherman, Jessie Ingram, John Sedgwick, and Margaret Janeway.

On the evening of Feb. 14 the amalgamation of the Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Libraries into the New York Public Library was celebrated at the Metropolitan Club, New York City, by a dinner tendered to the directors of the library and to the new superintendent-in-chief,

Dr. John Shaw Billings. Dr. Billings was the special guest. Among those present were Mayor W. L. Strong, Daniel C. Gilman, E. L. Godkin, E. J. Phelps, R. Fulton Cutting, George L. Rives, Edward Kling, Alexander E. Orr, John Bigelow, Seth Low, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, Dr. William H. Draper, ex-Mayor A. S. Hewitt, William Allen Butler, Morris K. Jesup, Cornelius N. Bliss, S. V. R. Cruger, Andrew H. Green, John S. Kennedy, Samuel P. Avery, Robbins Little, Prof. Henry Drisler, Dr. Thomas M. Markoe, Alexander Maitland, and John L. Cadwalader.

Mayor Strong was one of those who responded to toasts. He complimented the New York Library Association on its selection of directors, and spoke highly of the appointment of Dr. Billings. Dr. Billings responded in a few modest words, in which he set forth the purpose of the New York Public Library as being the education of the masses who are unable to educate themselves.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THERE has been much newspaper writing and considerable uneasiness in certain quarters over the civil service examination instituted for grade B at the Boston Public Library, and the examination questions caused much amusement and surprise. On the paper are such questions as:

"What are the main charges against present literary conditions in such a work as Nordau's 'Degeneration'?" or, "State briefly the hypothesis of the European origin of the Aryans. Give a plausible explanation of the origin of the Indians of America. Why are they called Indians?" or, "What is the contention of the United States, of Great Britain, and of Venezuela in the Venezuelan question?"

"Viewed in the light of the ordinary examination paper, these questions are difficult, if not absurd, but Librarian Putnam explained that it is a mistake to suppose that no person can enter grade B without answering all of these questions. The paper was designed for applicants whose previous education varied greatly, and who for the most part had not been tested in library work. A great variety of knowledge was touched by the questions in order to give a variety of opportunity. The examinations are not a basis for a certificate, diploma, or degree. Their sole purpose is to test, along certain lines, the knowledge of applicants for positions in this library. Even for this purpose they are but a preliminary and partial test.

"The examinations are not properly speaking competitive; they are but a preliminary test; and in making appointments other capacities than those indicated in the examination will be taken into account. The questions cover a wide range of subjects, with the express purpose of giving each applicant a chance at some subject or subjects with which he or she is well acquainted, thereby showing the quality of the applicant's mind.

"It must also be understood that this exami-

nation really plays but a small part in the selection of the candidates, for no examination can entirely determine their fitness, into which enter other than their mental qualifications. Some positions must be decided by the sex of the applicant, for there are many positions which women can fill better than men, and *vice versa*. There are others in which an academic education is of more importance than a high grade of intelligence, so that persons with this qualification may be given positions in preference to those who have passed the examination with higher marks. Another and a yet very important qualification, in certain departments, is delicacy of touch, or quickness of eye or ear. Take, for instance, a position in the tube-room. A person who had had training in some such work as typewriting, where great quickness of eye and touch are required, would in all probability secure the position instead of a person who had had an academy education but was near-sighted, or one who was of a high grade of intelligence but slow and methodical in manual work."

State Library Associations.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

A MEETING of the Massachusetts Library Club was held at Boston on January 1, 1896. In the hope of bringing together representatives of the library interests of New England in order that the work which is being done and which remains to be done might be clearly set forth and furthered by the extension of personal acquaintance, invitations had been extended to the New England commissions and associations and to all engaged or interested in library work. The meeting was attended by representatives from the public library committee of Connecticut, the library commissions of New Hampshire and Vermont, and the library associations of Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

The morning session was called to order by President Bolton at about half-past 10, in the large hall of the College of Liberal Arts of Boston University. In a few words Mr. Bolton expressed the desire of the club to return the hospitality they had received, and their pleasure in welcoming so many friends from beyond their territory, and then introduced Mr. George Haven Putnam, of New York, who spoke upon "The relations between publishers and librarians." The subject, Mr. Putnam confessed, had perplexed him from its vagueness, the relations seeming to him at first rather shadowy, if not non-existent. Yet, there are a few points of contact. Publishers are the first great cause of librarians, but originally publishers and librarians were identical, a condition still suggested by the French term "*librairie*." Before the time of printed books, manuscripts were let out for hire by booksellers, and in classic times the bookseller or librarian made a business of reading manuscripts aloud. Another relation that publishers have borne to the public has lain in directing the use of literature and of

literary effort. There have been times when the part played by the publisher in the selection of books which should come before his readers was very important. Very early in the history of printing the question came before the printer-publisher, "What material shall be utilized? There was no body of readers, no public taste, both were to be created, and the publishers shaped the demand. Between 1492 and 1520 Aldus had in hand all the treasures of Greek manuscripts. It was for him to select, to determine what the literary taste of his generation should be. The work of the earlier libraries was done in the monasteries. Lanfranc in 1070, *custos librorum* at Fleury, gave to each reader one book a year. On a certain day the books were brought back, and each monk was obliged to state whether he had read his book, if he had not, to do penance and receive back the volume for another year.

Metaphysical as well as physical change hampered the production and use of books. A publisher may well take pride in recalling to librarians the long fight against ecclesiastical and political censorship that lasted down to 1793. It was a fight made by publishers and printers primarily for the use of fruit, of property; but more than that lay in it, and it was fought at the sacrifice of property and of life. We would not wish the old censorship restored, yet we must admit that some control and direction of literary production is desirable and necessary. Publishers in individual cases can do very little to affect the quality of literature, but as a body they do fend off a great deal that is bad. The publisher might be defined as a discourager of literary production. From personal experience I can say that we print about 1½% of the books offered to us, not planned by us, in a year. Watching the books that come into print elsewhere, I estimate that about 10% of all books that come to publishers get into print somewhere. Ninety per cent. of failure represents a sad loss of time and energy; there is some education in it, but not as much as there ought to be. The question of censorship is coming again to the front on both sides of the Atlantic, and if there were a power that we could trust, there would be a certain satisfaction in having literature cleaned up before it was printed. I look forward to a higher state of civilization when such a function will be exercised. Kant said that every book constituted a service to humanity, but Kant read only a certain class of books, and it cannot be denied that many books constitute a disservice to humanity. We have lately passed through an era of universalism in literature, but critics of publishers do not know how much worse we might have done in this respect. We have in America thousands of active-minded but half-baked people who do not stop to think that their ideas may be already embodied in books to which they do not have access. It would astonish you to know what things come to publishers, often, showing great ingenuity but no knowledge of what has been done before. An American, showing the proofs of a magazine

article to a German friend, said that it was preliminary only, and that he meant to think the subject out later. To which the German replied: "You Americans are intellectually indecent. You educate yourselves in public." Certainly the publisher in Germany has an easier time than here, because there still exists in Germany a respect for the solemnity of print. It is so in France, outside of fiction, and was true up to within ten years in London. Here the process of sifting is done by the publishers and is all done in four cities; probably three-fourths of what is written comes to New York to be sifted. A publisher is sometimes tempted to long for the establishment of sifting bureaux in convenient geographical districts, where people with literary yearnings could record themselves, paying, say, one dollar for a year, five dollars for an aspiration, and ten dollars for a genuine aim. These commissioners should sift the material at so much a sift, and allow only the best to reach the publishers. Joking apart, I am really in favor of some sort of literary civil-service examination before a writer could get before a publisher.

Publishers come into relations with librarians, at one remove, through booksellers. The question of rates comes up yearly for adjustment but there is a steady tendency in one direction. Publishers are expected to give larger discounts each year to library agents. In the old days 33½% off was given to dealers and 25% off to retail trade. Now library agents expect 40% off and 40% + 5, and in fiction 50%. Trustees seem to have the impression that they do better by their trust in getting large discounts, but in the end they do not. Sooner or later the retail price must be increased. In forcing up discounts they are not getting better value for each dollar of trust funds expended.

The service of an intelligent library agent is not always estimated at its full value. If a man renders good service in this way he is entitled to compensation, and this is often grudgingly given by library boards, particularly in the West, such service being too often regarded as equivalent to carting bricks. In starting a library in a small town a list to cover \$100 was once sent to a library agent, and it began with a full set of Mrs. Southworth, whose works were then listed at \$1.75 a volume. The agent took the liberty of suggesting a better set of books and the suggestion was welcomed. The trustee who sent the order stated that he was a Baptist minister and had never read a novel, but had been told by a parishioner that Mrs. Southworth's books were desirable.

The future of publishing does depend largely on the development of library interests which are coming increasingly into intelligent hands. The American publisher is troubled by much matter that ought to be printed and yet is not wanted by enough people to make it pay. If we could see 500 well-endowed libraries, the funds of which would certainly be available for the purchase of such books as are printed by the Clarendon Press, and published through numerous printing clubs and societies abroad which do

not exist here, it would much lessen the perplexity of publishers in dealing with scholarly applicants whom we must often now, with mortification, refuse. Of the 4000 libraries enumerated in the United States, only 700 have what can be called buying incomes, and only 100 can be depended upon to take an intellectual book. In the case of Brown's "History of the printing press," 250 copies were taken for America in the hope of selling 150 to libraries and 100 to individuals. Individuals bought 100 copies, but to libraries only 30 were sold. It is not to be considered remarkable if publishers are sometimes unenterprising.

Mr. Gardner M. Jones, being called upon to tell what publishers could do for librarians, asked for better paper that would be worth re-binding, and better bindings that would last over one loan. He thought that many standard works were printed in too small type, and objected to the publication of many desirable books exclusively in light colored bindings, entirely unsuited to library use. Mr. Jones described the permanent book exhibition which is maintained by the London Library Bureau, and pointed out the advantages which such a collection of books furnished by publishers for exhibition only would have for librarians in this country. Is it advisable for libraries to buy directly of publishers? Mr. Jones thought not. The discount would be more than covered by the extra cost of expressage, postage, remittances, separate accounts, trouble with imperfect copies, competing editions, and so forth, and in addition the library would lose the advice of the bookseller, which is often valuable, and the advantage often allowed by the bookseller of returning a book which happened not to be wanted. Out of a recent invoice of 101 volumes he had kept 73, and these 73 represented 24 publishers, of whom six were in Boston, 14 in New York, one in Chicago, and three in Philadelphia.

Mr. Putnam admitted that many of the strictures were too well founded, but thought that recent attempts to improve the quality of pulp-paper, particularly by the use of young fibre of the beech-tree, were encouraging. There should be no difficulty in securing special quality of paper or binding in response to an organized demand. For printing an edition on better quality of paper a guaranteed sale of 250 copies would be effective. A special binding could be had for 100 copies. The London book exhibit was an excellent thing, but in this country we have no centre like London, but every city considers itself a centre. Moreover, publishers are already forced to give away a very large number of copies for review, as many as from 300 to 500, so that fresh suggestions in this line are apt to be looked at conservatively.

Mr. C. C. Soule earnestly advocated the reduction of discounts and related the story of the introduction and spread of net prices among law publishers. He agreed with Mr. Jones that it was not good policy to buy of the publisher, and thought that the local bookseller, if a man of intelligence, ought to be encouraged by the local library. He urged trustees and librarians

to buy books in good editions and to have more regard to quality than to actual cost.

Mr. Herbert Putnam gave the guests and members of the club a most cordial invitation to visit the Boston Public Library, and invitations were also extended on behalf of the State Library, the Boston Athenæum, and Harvard College Library.

After a five-minutes' recess the secretary read a report from the executive committee expressing the opinion that under the third article of the constitution librarians or persons interested in library work residing outside of Massachusetts and Rhode Island could become members of the club by consent of the executive committee on the same terms as residents within those states. The report was accepted.

The second half of the program was then taken up: "The condition of library interests in New England states." Miss Caroline M. Hewins, secretary of the Connecticut Public Library Committee, read an interesting account of the work of the committee, in which the newly awakened interest in public libraries as exemplified in communities widely different in environment and social conditions, was vividly portrayed. The paper was illustrated by a large map of the state, colored to show the distribution of libraries and the growth of library activity.

Miss Mary A. Richardson, secretary of the Connecticut Library Association, was unhappily prevented by illness from attending, but sent an interesting account of the association, which was read by Miss Chapell. The Connecticut Library Association was suggested at the A. L. A. meeting at Fabyan's and organized on February 23 of the following year, Prof. Van Name being president, Miss Hewins secretary, and Mr. Hills treasurer, with five vice-presidents from different sections of the state and an assistant secretary. Fifteen meetings have been held since, and the membership numbers 82 in good and regular standing. The membership fee is 50 cents. A handbook has been published and a C. L. A. badge adopted—a monogram in silver and Yale blue enamel. Annual meetings have been held in the larger cities, but the spring and fall meetings in smaller places, alternating, when possible, between the eastern and western parts of the state. "Perhaps we should have had a larger attendance if all the meetings had been held at railroad centres, but we should have missed some of our most delightful occasions and failed to have helped as much as by our present plan. From the very beginning we have enjoyed the pleasure and benefit derived from association with our Massachusetts library friends, and now as an association we are glad to return the visits. The range of subjects discussed has been very broad; a series of talks on the bibliography of different subjects has been started. For the last two years an address of general interest has been given at each meeting, commonly by some one not in the library profession. The relations of public libraries and the schools have been much discussed and public school teachers have been in-

vited to attend and take part in the discussion. A special feature has been a short historical account of the library, where the meeting was held, and of the new libraries in the immediate vicinity. Trustees, librarians, and assistants have all taken their part in discussion, the timid ones being drawn out by a kindly worded question from the chairman. The social element has been a pronounced feature in many of our meetings, so that we Connecticut librarians feel that we are really beginning to know each other."

The condition of library affairs in Maine was presented by Mr. E. W. Emery, assistant librarian of the Maine State Library. "Although library laws were enacted in 1854, 1864, and 1887, it was not until 1893 that any practical encouragement was given for the establishment of free public libraries. Under the law then passed any free public library is entitled to receive from the state a yearly sum equal to 10 per cent. of the amount appropriated by the municipality where it is established. The law also provides for a donation of books not to exceed \$100 in value to every library established in a town of not more than 1500 inhabitants. All department reports, laws, and decisions of the courts, published by the state, are placed by law in these free libraries.

"At the present time various forces are operating to produce a demand for the free library in every town and city of Maine. Not the least among these forces are the unity clubs and other associations maintained by the women of Maine. The Grange is also working to the same result. The lectures on University Extension courses and similar associations for the general education of the people are rapidly creating the need of large collections of books in every considerable community. Although the free library movement has barely commenced with us, it has manifested considerable vitality. On December 1, 1894, there were 34 free public libraries within the state. On December 1, 1895, there were 45 such libraries. It only needs the impulse and inspiration of public lectures and meetings, where the value of free libraries shall be made known to the people in order to place Maine abreast of her sister states in this great educational movement." A Maine Library Association has been organized, with Mr. L. D. Carver, state librarian, as president, Miss Harriet C. Fernald, secretary, Mr. George T. Little, treasurer, but it has not yet entered upon an active career, although a meeting is expected in the near future. Miss Fernald and Mr. Little were present.

From New Hampshire reports were made by Hon. W. W. Bailey, president of the New Hampshire Library Association, and Mr. J. H. Whittier, secretary of the board of library commissioners. To Mr. Whittier we are indebted for the suggestion made during the Lake Placid Conference, which led to the present meeting.

The work of the library commissioners in New Hampshire, created in 1891, has been so efficient and so well supplemented by legislation that only 52 towns in the state are now without a public library, while several of these have the

use of a free association library. The reports of the commissioners contain illustrated accounts of the town libraries and valuable "suggestions as to library methods." The New Hampshire Library Association numbers 56 members. Its work is supplemented in the southern part of the state by the local organization called the "Cocheco Library Club." In his remarks Mr. Whittier spoke of the desire of the commissioners to foster the local town library and establish it on entirely independent footing. He thought the system of travelling libraries as applied in New York distinctly inferior to the establishment of these independent town libraries owned and administered by the towns.

Mr. W. E. Foster and Mrs. Sanders spoke for Rhode Island, where the commissioner of education exercises some of the functions of the library commissioners of other states. Under certain conditions he may grant to public libraries sums not exceeding \$200. Any library desiring this aid must expend in books the amount to which it is entitled, which sum, if the books purchased are approved, it can then obtain from the commissioner. The LIBRARY JOURNAL is sent by the state to public libraries that make use of this provision. Rhode Island has no independent library association. From an early date in the history of this club our Rhode Island brethren have been welcomed as members and as officers, and about a year ago this extension of the Massachusetts Club to Rhode Island was formally expressed in our constitution.

The Vermont Free Public Library Commission was represented by its secretary, Miss Mary L. Titcomb, who said: "In the fall of 1894 the Vermont legislature enacted a law similar to that in force in Massachusetts establishing a library commission to consist of five members and providing that any town voting a certain per cent. on its income for the support of a library and appointing a board of five trustees should receive \$100 worth of books from the state. The commission held its first meeting early in February, 1895, and soon after circulars setting forth the provisions and advantages of the law were issued to all towns having no libraries. At the March town meetings 40 towns voted to establish libraries and make the necessary application for state aid. In supplying these towns no two lists have been sent out which were alike, and where it has been possible and consistent the commission have consulted the wishes of the various committees as to the selection of books, at the same time endeavoring to purchase only books of permanent value in the several departments. The commission also issue a circular of instruction as to the management, classification, etc., of a small library." Vermont has a library association of about 50 members, Miss S. C. Hagar, librarian of the Burlington Free Library, being president, and Miss Titcomb, secretary. Both were present.

A few remarks were then made on behalf of the Massachusetts commission by Mr. S. S. Green and Mr. H. S. Nourse; Mr. C. B. Tillinghast, the chairman of the meeting, being prevented from attending by his duties at the State Library, consequent upon the convening of

the general court. Mr. Green said that only 25 towns in the state were now without free public libraries supported by the town. He thought travelling libraries not adapted to the conditions in this state, but thought that it was desirable for the commission to send to libraries boxes of books on special subjects, and in some cases to loan reference-books. Particular stress was laid on the importance of commissioners entering into close personal relations with the towns which they are to serve.

The meeting then adjourned, and the afternoon was spent in the inspection of various libraries.

At 7:30 p.m. the company reassembled at the rooms of the Woman's Club on Park street. Mrs. M. A. Sanders read an account of the Denver meeting and the post-conference trip through the wonders of Colorado, and Mr. F. W. Faxon exhibited in illustration with the magic lantern a large number of beautiful views taken by him during the trip. Mr. Jones then made a brief statement of the work of the fiction committee and announced the receipt of five dollars toward the support of the lists of select fiction from Miss James, of Wilkesbarré, Pa., and C. C. Soule described the proposed excursion of the A. L. A. to England in 1897.

The rest of the evening was devoted exclusively to social enjoyment, and enlivened by songs by the Excelsior Quartette, of Pawtucket, and by the serving of light refreshments.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary*.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE sixth annual meeting of the New Hampshire Library Association was held at Concord Jan. 29, 1896, in the fine new state library building.

In point of attendance and interest it was by far the best meeting ever held. Librarians were present from the most distant towns, and commissioners and vice-presidents were well represented. The session was hardly long enough to satisfy the eager questioners and ready speakers.

Pres. W. W. Bailey, of Nashua, presided. Introductory business consisted of the election of officers, reading of reports, admission of new members, and remarks upon the desirability of frequent meetings and the probability that Claremont would hold the next one. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, W. W. Bailey, Nashua; Vice-presidents: Rockingham, E. H. Gilman; Stratford, Daniel Hall; Belknap, E. P. Jewell; Carroll, E. Q. Marston; Merrimack, J. B. Walker; Hillsboro, V. G. Gilman; Cheshire, F. C. Faulkner; Sullivan, S. M. Richards; Grafton, G. T. Cruft; Coos, I. W. Drew; Corresponding secretary, Miss Grace Blanchard; Recording secretary, A. R. Kimball; Librarian and treasurer, Miss A. M. Colby; Executive committee: Miss C. H. Garland, Miss Kate Sanborn, Fred Gowing, Miss Abbie Field, J. H. Whittier; Auditor, A. H. Chase; Committee on legislation: Daniel Hall, J. E. Robbins, J. H. Whittier.

The addresses opened with an earnest and thoughtful paper on "Co-operation in New Hamp-

shire libraries" by A. H. Chase, state librarian. In order to increase the interest in the work in the state he recommended first the building up of the library association by the holding of more frequent meetings at which live topics should be presented and discussed, and second, the co-operation of the association with the various state libraries in the work of straightening out knotty points of administration, in purchasing books, etc. He advocated the establishment of a system of loaning books between libraries. The state has inaugurated this system by authorizing the librarian to loan the miscellaneous collection of the state to the various town libraries, and there is no reason why such a system between smaller ones should not work well, in fact make the present scattered forces a solid, united body. He also advocated the establishment of a periodical devoted to library work in the state.

The other number on the program was "First steps in work with public schools," by Miss Kate E. Sanborn, head of the Manchester Public Library, and her practical, admirably given talk won warm applause as her work for schools will win imitation.

A general conference on library problems preceded adjournment to the hotel for dinner. The hour remaining before train time was divided by the visitors between the state and public libraries.

The meeting more than fulfilled the expectations of the executive committee and the association feels a great onward impetus.

GRACE BLANCHARD, *Secretary*.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A SPECIAL meeting of the New Jersey Library Association was held on Thursday, Jan. 30, at the Newark Public Library, for the purpose of reviving interest in library matters throughout the state, and considering the proposed bill for the establishment of a public library commission.

Mr. Dewey, being unavoidably detained, was represented by Mr. Eastman, who gave a clear and succinct account of the methods and results of the travelling library system.

He was ably followed by Mrs. Horton, who as vice-president of the Federation of Women's Clubs had given this matter much thought and was able to read to the association a letter from Governor Griggs, of New Jersey, to the effect that he would give the subject his careful consideration.

Miss See, the president of the association, then read a most interesting paper on the oldest public library in New Jersey, incorporated at New Brunswick in 1796 by a few public-spirited citizens. Among the books first purchased was Brooke's "Fool of quality," which was invariably returned the same day it was taken out. The interesting records of this first public library were discovered about a year ago and were presented to the Free Public Library of New Brunswick.

After a brief recess Prof. Richardson, of Princeton University, gave an admirable account of the library interests of New Jersey to-day, and inspired us to press on with renewed vigor to make New Jersey take her proper rank in the

library world. The goal which we are striving for just now is the establishment of a public library commission in the state. Mr. Green, of Worcester, described the method and scope of such a commission by citing the example of Massachusetts, which is the banner state in this work, there being only 24 towns in the commonwealth without libraries. City Counsel Riker gave a résumé of the laws of New Jersey respecting public libraries and pledged his support to the promotion of the plan.

There was a good representation of library trustees from various places, who were fully alive to the importance of their duties, and the discussions on the various topics were characterized by valuable and practical suggestions. The following resolution concerning the A. L. A. catalog was adopted, and copies of the same were ordered to be sent to each member of Congress from this state:

"Whereas, It has been brought to the notice of the New Jersey Library Association that the catalog of the 5000 books recommended by the American Library Association, and approved at the World's Fair in 1893, is now out of print:

"And whereas, It seems desirable that it should receive the public approval and endorsement of the Congress of the United States, and be sent broadcast throughout the country for the use of free public libraries:

"Resolved, That this association heartily approve the republication, by Congress, of the A. L. A. catalog, and request the members of Congress from New Jersey to give to the measure a favorable consideration.

"Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolution be printed and sent to each of the members of Congress from this state."

After partaking of a dinner provided by the trustees of the Newark Public Library, the association was entertained at the house of Mr. W. R. Weeks, who is well known as a book-lover and whose large library contains many treasures of a unique character. His collection of "Jerseyana" is considered the finest in existence.

So came to an end a delightful and memorable day in the annals of the New Jersey Library Association. BEATRICE WINNER, *Secretary*.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

EARLY in January the following circular was sent by the Chicago Library Club to the different libraries of the state:

"At a recent meeting of the Chicago Library Club, the project of forming a state library association was discussed. It was the sense of the club that the time has come for such an organization in Illinois, and that immediate steps should be taken toward its formation.

"The objects and benefits of a state library association are many, of which a few may be specified:

"1. To furnish librarians and others connected with libraries, or interested in their work, an opportunity of meeting one another and of exchanging views and promoting library interests by mutual service and co-operation.

"2. To provide a bureau to which persons may apply for information on libraries, their methods of administration, history, and statistics.

"3. To further favorable library legislation, and especially to effect the appointment of a state library commission.

"In view of the many advantages to be derived from a state library association, and following the example of many other states of the Union, east and west, the Chicago Library Club wishes to unite with librarians, trustees of libraries, and all persons interested in forming a state library association, and invites you to attend a meeting hereby called for that purpose, to be held at Springfield, on Thursday, the 23d day of January, 1896."

It was in response to this invitation that about 40 librarians, trustees, and others interested in library work assembled, at 10 o'clock, in the senate chamber of the capitol on the appointed day.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. G. E. Wire, who then nominated Miss Savilla T. Hinrichsen, of the State Library, as temporary chairman. Miss Hinrichsen, on accepting, appointed Mr. Alexander, of Jacksonville, as temporary secretary. Katharine L. Sharp, of Chicago, Thos. Nelson, of East St. Louis, and Lodilla Ambrose, of Evanston, were then appointed as a committee on permanent organization, and retired for consultation.

While awaiting the return of the committee, each one present gave an informal report on his library and its work.

The committee returned and presented its report, with a draft of constitution, which was voted upon article by article, and approved without discussion, except upon section six, in regard to which Dr. Bradley, president of Illinois College, at Jacksonville, questioned the advisability of fixing the annual dues at so low a sum as 50 cents. Miss Sharp stated that the experience of other state associations had led the committee to conclude that said amount was sufficient. The following constitution was then adopted:

Name.—The name of this organization shall be the Illinois State Library Association.

Object.—Its object shall be to promote the library interests of the state of Illinois.

Members.—Any librarian, library assistant, library trustee, or other person interested in advancing its object may become a member of this association by vote of the executive board and upon payment to the treasurer of the annual assessment.

Officers.—The officers of the association shall consist of a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, and who shall constitute the executive board, which shall have power to act for the association in intervals between its meetings.

Meetings.—There shall be one or more meetings each year, one of which shall be designated the annual meeting, the time and place of which shall be fixed by the association, or by the executive board, and ample notice of such time and place shall be furnished to each member.

Dues and debts.—The annual assessment shall be 50 cents. No officer, committee, or member of the association shall incur any expense in its name, nor shall the treasurer make any payment from its funds, unless authorized to do so by vote of the executive board.

Amendments.—This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of those members present at any annual meeting, notice of the proposed change having been given in the call for the meeting.

The chairman appointed Dr. Wire, of Chicago, Mr. Moulton, of Quincy, and Miss Durham,

*An Illinois State Library Association was nominally organized in 1890, but no meetings were held.

of Danville, as a nominating committee to select permanent officers.

Miss Sharp moved the adoption of a question-box for the afternoon session. Carried. Mrs. Dixon moved the creation of a college section at close of afternoon session. Carried. On motion the meeting adjourned.

On reassembling in the senate chamber for the afternoon meeting, the committee on nomination presented the following officers were elected: President, Thos. Nelson, Ln. P. L., East St. Louis; Vice-presidents, Miss S. T. Hinrichsen, Ln. Illinois State Library; E. S. Wilcox, Ln. P. L., Peoria; Secretary, Evva L. Moore, Ln. Withers P. L., Bloomington; Treasurer, P. F. Bicknell, Ln. Univ. of Illinois, Champaign.

The president was then conducted to the chair, and gave a short address on the work that the association hoped to do; he expressed regret that no selection was made from Chicago for a place on the executive board, but this had been in accordance with the wishes of the Chicago delegates.

Moved and seconded that all who had responded to the call for the meeting by letter, or otherwise, be enrolled and considered members of the association. Lost.

Moved and seconded that those present be enrolled charter members of the association, and that those who have requested by letter, or otherwise, be considered the first applicants under the rulings of the constitution. Carried.

Dr. Wire then brought before the meeting the two special objects to be considered:

1. To provide an information bureau.
2. To effect the appointment of a state library commission.

Moved and seconded that suitable committees be appointed by the president on these two measures, said committees to report at the evening session. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a vote of thanks of the association be tendered the temporary chairman and the secretary for the services of the day. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a rising vote of thanks be given to the Chicago Library Club for their effort in behalf of the formation of the association, and to those who had come down from Chicago to assist in said formation. Carried.

At this point in the proceedings the president introduced Prof. S. M. Inglis, state superintendent of education, also a trustee of the Illinois State Library, who, after a few words of greeting and commendation of the movement, made a very interesting address on library work in connection with the schools. He stated that it was the intention of the Board of Education to place libraries in every school of every town of the state.

Moved and seconded that the various queries of the question-box be taken up for consideration. Carried.

1. (a) What business records are necessary in a small library of 5000 or 10,000 volumes?
- (b) Is the librarian expected to keep these records?

2. What methods are used to familiarize

patrons of a public library or students of a college library with common reference-books?

3. (a) How many of the libraries here represented have formulated a code of rules for employees?

- (b) What libraries?

4. How many attending this association had their expenses paid by library board?

5. How do you treat gifts?

6. Charging system for a library of 15,000 volumes.

7. About what amount of fine should be imposed for turning down a leaf in a book? Also please state the fair amount for other common abuses or injuries which books receive.

8. What is the best and most effective way to reach library patrons to teach them to properly care for the books drawn by them?

9. What is the best way of repairing a book when it begins to break loose from its binding, before it is bad enough to be rebound?

10. (a) Our library was organized about three and one-half years ago. We have about 2300 volumes in circulation. We have just sent off 125 badly worn volumes to be rebound, and have perhaps as many more fast getting in the same condition. Most of these have been in constant use the whole time—some of them only about a year and a half. Is this an uncommonly bad record?

- (b) How long ought the average cloth-bound book in constant use to last before needing repairs, and how long does it last in the average library?

11. (a) Can libraries as libraries join this association, or is it simply for individuals?

- (b) If libraries, what will be the annual tax?

12. Can a librarian with a very small salary, who wishes to keep up with the times and make progress, afford to get along without taking the LIBRARY JOURNAL?

13. How can abusers of books be detected, when the abuse is only gradual?

14. Wanted—a simple charging system?

These questions were taken up one by one and very carefully considered; the discussion of them was taken part in by most of those present, and proved of much interest and instruction to all.

The president announced as committee on Illinois State Library Commission: A. H. Hopkins, Dr. Wire, and Miss Sharp; as committee on Bureau of Information: Miss Ambrose, Miss Milner, and Mrs. Resor. The names were then read of those who wished to become members of the association. Moved and seconded that said list be referred to the executive board for action. Carried.

Miss Sharp, in name of H. L. Elemendorf, secretary of the A. L. A., who hoped to be present at this, the first meeting of the Illinois State Library Association, read the program for the annual A. L. A. Conference, to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, in September, and the Post-Conference trip of the same meeting; she also gave particulars in regard to the proposed European trip in 1897.

The president then announced that at the close of the session the executive board would

meet; also the college section of the association. Adjourned until 7:30 p.m.

In the fore part of the evening Miss Hinrichsen gave an informal reception to the association in the State Library. It was passed very pleasantly in becoming acquainted with one another and in much good-fellowship.

The meeting was formally called to order at 8:45; 16 members were present.

The secretary being absent, Dr. Wire was elected secretary *pro tem.* Report of committee of library commissions was called for. Miss Sharp gave an informal account of the commissions, and then the report was read by Mr. Hopkins, the chairman, to this effect:

"Your committee would report that in their judgment it is time for the formation of an Illinois State Library Commission, and would recommend,

"1. That a circular letter be issued not later than November 1, 1896, stating the objects of the library commission and requesting each librarian to write to his senator and representative asking that he use his influence favoring a commission.

"2. That a draft of a bill for a library commission be made and presented to the executive board of the Illinois State Library Association in time that it may be brought before the legislature at its session in January, 1897.

"Respectfully submitted,

Committee, { A. H. HOPKINS,
KATHARINE L. SHARP,
G. E. WIRE, M.D."

This report was adopted and the committee continued. The committee on Bureau of Information reported as follows:

"Your committee on the Bureau of Information recommends that the association form such a bureau. The need of such a bureau is evident from the experience of the leading libraries of the state, who so often receive letters of inquiry from the librarians of the smaller, isolated libraries. Your committee believes that the librarians of these smaller libraries would be glad to have some place to which they might feel perfectly free to write without being under undue sense of obligation. Your committee recommends that this whole matter be put into the hands of Miss Sharp, of the Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, to develop, as circumstances may dictate, for one year, it being understood that she may refer inquiries to members of the association who may be specially prepared on particular points, that information be given along modern lines, and that the association shall not be held responsible for the details of such information, it being also understood that members of the association receiving general inquiries in library matters may refer them to this bureau. Miss Sharp is specially fitted by experience and the circumstances of her position to undertake this work, and is willing to do so for a year, hoping in this way to gather some material to put into the hands of a possible State Library Commission. Your committee also recommends that notices describing the

work proposed by this bureau be sent to all librarians who can be discovered in the state.

"Respectfully submitted,

Committee, { LODILLA AMBROSE,
JOSEPHINE H. RESOR,
ANGE V. MILNER."

The report was adopted, and committee discharged. The president expressed his desire to send a circular letter to each member of the association asking for the names of their directors, and then following this by a circular letter to the directors asking that their librarian be sent to the association, and that one member of their board be sent as a representative. Mr. Meleney put at the disposal of the association his data about libraries in this state. He also gave some idea of the difficulty in getting information about libraries—especially small libraries. He expressed the desire that members might send to the secretary information about every library they know of. Mr. Hopkins suggested that the assistants be remembered and noticed, as it is from them that our ranks are recruited.

Mr. Wilcox gave the history of the Illinois state library law, it having been drawn at his suggestion by Mr. S. Caldwell.

Informal discussion ensued on the number of trustees best suited for a board, followed by a discussion on time and place of meetings.

Meeting adjourned 9:45 p.m.

EVVA L. MOORE, *Secretary.*

COLLEGE SECTION.

There were in attendance at the association meeting nine librarians representing the libraries of universities, colleges, a school of technology, and a normal school. These promptly organized a College Section, mindful of the value of the College Section of the A. L. A., and invited all of the other librarians who were interested in the same questions to join them. Mr. P. F. Bicknell, of the University of Illinois, was made president of the section, and Miss A. V. Milner, of the Illinois State Normal University, was made secretary. To the president was assigned the duty of selecting a topic and essayist for the next meeting in one year from that time, and the section informally adjourned.

EVVA L. MOORE, *Secretary.*

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE fifth conference of the Wisconsin Library Association will be held at Racine, Wis., on March 12-13, 1896. The association will be called to order at 2:30 p.m. on March 13, when papers on timely library topics will be presented by Miss Theresa West, of the Milwaukee Public Library, Miss Katharine Sharp, of Armour Institute, Mr. Almon Burtch, of A. C. McClurg & Co., and others. The evening session will be devoted to an address on "The mission and missionaries of books," by Mr. J. N. Larned, of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Library, tendered by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. The final session, on the morning of March 13, will be given up to general and special discussions on "Travelling libraries," "Library problems of Wisconsin," and "Three-minute reports from Wisconsin libraries."

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Minnesota Library Association met in St. Paul, Dec. 27, 1895, in the rooms of the State Historical Society.

Dr. Wm. W. Folwell, of the State University, presided, and about 30 members were present.

The first paper on the program was prepared by Miss Elisabeth Selden, of Duluth, on the subject, "Public libraries and their work." Her paper in substance stated that the Duluth Library withdraws a certain number of books from circulation, and reserves them for the use of clubs, for a period of four weeks, and that the library makes special book purchases for clubs, as far as it is able. The writer did not claim that these privileges had led to the formation of new clubs, but that they had been of incalculable benefit to those already existing.

Miss M. M. Davis, of the Minneapolis Public Library, followed with a paper on the same subject. Miss Davis argued from the standpoint that the library is really the "people's university," and that the club is the "middle-aged persons' college." There are in Minneapolis 75 to 80 clubs, with a membership of over 3000, most of whom are students in this library. If possible, the library should provide a meeting-place, a quiet corner for study, and free access to the books, even at the cost of some inconvenience. The club in turn has a reflex influence on the library, showing its strength and weakness along special lines.

Dr. Hosmer, chief librarian at Minneapolis, then gave a most delightful talk on current fiction in the public library. He defended the taste for fiction-reading, and declared that to read a good prose romance was next to reading a fine poem. He spoke in favor of duplicating largely the popular books, but at the same time said that it was a problem as to how far the public funds should be absorbed in comparatively ephemeral literature. Another problem confronts the librarian, as to his right of censorship; how far can he go in rejecting books of uncertain character, which the public nevertheless clamor for?

Prof. Felland, of St. Olaf's College, gave it as his opinion that it was better to read a standard work of fiction 10 times over than to read 10 of the present-day novels.

Dr. Folwell followed with a paper on "Library economy in the college curriculum," advocating a department of library science in the university, which should prepare young people for positions of chief librarians.

Mr. E. S. Waters, of the Minneapolis Law Library, made some good remarks on the relations of college students to books, and the difficulty which the student of earlier days found in using the university libraries.

Miss L. M. Crafts, of the University Library, discussed the relation of the library department of a college to the college students.

Reports were read from a number of the smaller town libraries—Anoka, Mankato, Redwing, Rochester, and Stillwater. These reports were most encouraging, and were perhaps the most encouraging feature of the whole meeting.

The same officers were re-elected. Resolutions were adopted relative to the death of Mr. J. F. Williams, who was for 26 years librarian of the State Historical Society.

GRATIA COUNTRYMAN, *Secretary*.

Reviews.

CATALOGUE OF THE AVERY ARCHITECTURAL LIBRARY, a memorial library of architecture, archæology, and decorative art. Library of Columbia College, N. Y., 1895. 2 l. + 12 p. + 3 l. + 1159 p. Q.

In 1890 Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Avery gave to the library of Columbia College the architectural and art library of their son, H. O. Avery, an architect of New York, who died on April 30, in his 39th year. They gave also \$15,000 for the immediate purchase of books, and \$15,000, afterwards increased to \$25,000, as a permanent fund, the interest to be spent in keeping up the collection, the librarian and the professor of architecture of Columbia College and some New York architect not connected with the college being the committee of purchase. There are now about 13,000 volumes, the majority probably illustrated.

In most catalogs the size marked O prevails; Q and F are rare. This proportion is reversed in the present volume. The collection, though not deficient in works on construction, is richest in historical architecture, both in general and with reference to particular schools, oriental, classic, Gothic, etc., and especially in monographs on single places and buildings. Naturally periodicals and transactions of societies are here; nor have the decorative arts which enhance the attraction of architecture been neglected. If one misses very common works, some of Viollet-le-Duc or of Caumont, for instance, or Perrot and Chépiez, it is, of course, because they are in the general library of the college. It is a collection to make the mouth of the country architect water and his heart contract with envy at the superior privileges of his fellows in New York.

The givers requested in their letter of gift that "a separate catalogue of this library from time to time be printed in pamphlet form for free distribution to architects, students of art, and other persons or institutions to whom the library may be useful."

We do not know whether this volume, 1159 pages long and nearly four inches thick, is the pamphlet required, or whether the trustees intend to print a more handy author-list for student use. But we are glad to learn that there is to be a subject finding list, a catalog, that is, broken up into parts, each likely to be serviceable to the students of a special subject, such as Romanesque architecture, or landscape gardening. The divisions adopted will be, no doubt, according to the scheme by which the books are arranged on the shelves, which is prefixed to the present volume. Such a classed catalog

will be vastly more useful to students than the present volume, handsome as it is and worthy memorial of a generous gift, for at present the only way to ascertain what books the Avery library has on wood-carving, for instance, is to look through the whole 1159 pages of the catalog and note all the books whose class-mark is M5, a task which, in fact, no one would undertake. The new finding-list, too, can refer not only to the Avery collection but to every book and important part of a book in the general library treating of the same topic.

The volume is printed at the De Vinne Press; it is not necessary to say more, and yet we must particularize the delightfully black ink in which the authors' names show so well. In the fulness of the authors' names and dates of birth and death one sees the hand of Mr. Nelson, ably seconded by Miss Prescott. The number of pages, maps, and illustrations is given. The notation is a class letter, followed by figures for subdivisions. Under the subdivisions the order is alphabetical, noted by the Cutter order-table.

Altogether the catalog is a credit to the giver (it is printed at Mr. Avery's expense), to the library, and to the country. As the largest and most full list of architectural works published, it will be desired in all libraries. C: A. C.

CRANDALL, F. A. Check-list of public documents, containing debates and proceedings from the 1st to the 53d Congress; [also] Miscellaneous list of documents and historical and bibliographical notes. 2d ed., rev. and enl. Wash., Gov. Print. Office, 1895. 222 p. O.

This important document, in its compact pages, comprises more working information about government documents than has probably ever before been put under one cover. It is an extension of the valuable check-list issued by Dr. Ames in 1892, and it is pleasant to note that besides making direct and cordial acknowledgment to Dr. Ames in his preface to the second edition, Superintendent Crandall has caused to be reprinted Dr. Ames's original preface to the first edition.

Dr. Ames himself had prepared much of the copy for the new edition, incorporating the new feature of a serial number for the several Congressional documents, beginning with number 1 for the 15th Congress, and running as high as number 4344 at the close of the 43d Congress. It is unfortunate that provision has not been made in this serial numeration for the earlier Congresses, and for additional documents in later Congresses should such show themselves—as is not beyond the bounds of possibility. In fact, a modification of the decimal system, using for the first figures numerals corresponding to the number of the Congress, would probably have been a better method, although open to the objection that such enumeration would not be serial numbering. The whole list of Congressional documents has been recast into tabular form and the work carried through to the close of the 53d Congress. Other important features have been added, as the tables of the Statutes at

large, and the Revised statutes, the publications of the Post-Office Department and of the Department of Justice, the Patent Office *Official Gazette*, the publications of the 11th census, etc.

The valuable appendixes, which are entirely new features, cover: (1) a remarkably interesting and valuable list of "Explorations and surveys"; (2) a bibliography of government catalogs, covering 12 pages and a great number of titles, which is most informing and valuable to the bibliographer; (3) a systematized index from the several departments and bureaus to their publications, as given in the sets of Congressional documents, with the serial number. Attention should also be called to the extremely valuable note on the earlier Congresses compiled by Mr. Hickcox.

This important check-list has been compiled under the superintendence of Mr. Crandall by Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, librarian, and Mr. John H. Hickcox, cataloger, of the office of the Superintendent of documents. Numerous criticisms of sins of omission or commission could doubtless be made as the result of detailed examination, but the list of errata, mostly for Appendix 3, is the best evidence that the catalogers themselves have been alert to the necessary imperfections of such a work. It is intended, we understand, in the future, when occasion serves, to reissue this check-list with improvements suggested in the experience obtained in preparing the present one, but that will not be necessary to earn for Mr. Crandall and his staff, as well as for Dr. Ames, the cordial thanks of all librarians who desire that their collections of public documents should be made directly useful to the student and the reading public. R. R. B.

TEGGART, F. J. Catalogue of the Hopkins Railway Library; introduction by Edwin H. Woodruff, Librarian. Publications of the Leland Stanford Junior University, no. 1. 9+ 231 pp., 1895. Published by Stanford University, Palo Alto, Cal. buckram, O. \$1.50; unbound, \$1.25.

This is a catalog of a unique collection of books. Mr. Timothy Hopkins, the founder of this library, and after whom it is named, is a native of Maine, and was identified with the Southern Pacific Company from its organization until 1892, finally filling the position of treasurer. During his activity as a railroad official he collected nearly 2000 books and pamphlets relating to railroad subjects. In 1892 Mr. Hopkins gave this collection to the Stanford University, at the same time making provision for its support and future growth. Purchases were made as opportunity offered until the autumn of 1894, when circulars were sent to railroad corporations, booksellers, and others who might be able to furnish literature of this class. The result was an increase to 9245 books and pamphlets. Accepting the general definition for "pamphlets," there are nearly 4000 in this library.

The Hopkins Catalogue is classified as follows: bibliography, periodicals and transactions,

dictionaries, fiction and verse, general, history, biography; under geographical heads: Africa, America, Asia, Europe, Oceanica. After the division of economics, which includes eight sub-headings, a subject classification is given corresponding somewhat with the practical operation of railroads, as law, equipment, operation and local railways, including atmospheric, cable, electric, and spiral ways. The principle upon which this classification seems to be based is convenience.

The descriptive features of the titles are accurate and complete. The names of the publishers which are omitted might have been added. These would assist others wishing to order similar books. Whether the name of the author or the title of the book appears first it is in heavy type. There are two columns to the page. There is an author index containing about 2600 names, which gives not only the names that appear on the title-page but those in the notes as well.

There is a vast amount of matter in the catalog that might be excluded if the library were based upon selection rather than collection. It contains the titles of many books that have nothing more than their name to recommend them. It may readily be seen how this would occur when so many books and pamphlets are received in response to a circular letter sent to booksellers, associations, and railroads. This catalog does not claim to be a complete bibliography, since it contains only the titles represented in the library, and the brief existence of the library would not be expected to warrant thoroughness. Time is quite as necessary in making a library as ability and money. In fact the titles of many desirable books are missing that any one would expect to find in this, the largest collection of its kind in the world. The only other libraries of this class that are connected in any way with public institutions are 2000 volumes in the Department of Public Works, Berlin; a collection chiefly of works on railroad engineering, the property of the American Society of Civil Engineers, New York; the collection of the Railroad Branch, Young Men's Christian Association, New York, whose catalog has over 500 titles of a general character; and that of the Bar Association, New York, which has about 100 titles on railroad-law.

The Stanford University aims to stimulate the use of this library by offering courses of study in railroad economics. While the library may be of use to a few students at the university who may wish to acquire a knowledge of railroads, it will never be available to the greatest number of railroad men while located on the Pacific coast. The centre of railroad mileage and railroad employees is nearer Chicago than any other large city, while the financial centre is nearer New York. Thus it is this very desirable library is out of the reach of the very class of people that would be expected to make the most use of it. It is to be hoped that the New York Public Library will make an effort to collect a first-class selection of railroad books at an early date.

Special libraries relating to social and eco-

nomie questions are of recent growth. A thorough investigation of these subjects requires the consideration of the entire literature concerning them; consequently a complete collection of literature of a special field must be of value. One of the most important questions confronting our civilization to-day is the relation of the transportation industries to the public. Judging from the titles in this catalog, the true place of the railroad company in the commonwealth has not been determined. To render investigation possible by making a collection which would contain all the works bearing on railways that have ever been published in any language, was the idea of Timothy Hopkins in establishing this library. However inadequate or incomplete the collection may be at present, one thing is sure, that the means and ability is furnished that will make this library as complete as possible. W. F. S.

Library Economy and History.

LOCAL.

Alameda (Cal.) P. L. An interesting account of the organization, growth, and work of the Alameda Public Library is given in the issue of the *Alameda Daily Argus* for December 21, 1895; portraits of the librarian, J. W. Harbourn, and of the members of the board of trustees are also given.

Altoona (Pa.) Mechanics' L. and Reading-Room Assoc. Added 1700; total 22,425; issued 42,877. Receipts \$4022.27; expenditures \$3527.17.

There are 123 school-children who enjoy the privileges of the library through the courtesy extended to them by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. These children represent an equal number of shares of stock held by the company. Two or three years ago there were 281 of these free memberships granted, but it was found necessary to reduce this number, owing to the fact that the membership had increased and more space for additional cases was required to accommodate new books.

Appleton (Minn.) P. L. was opened to the public January 20 with a public reception in the city building. The library starts with 500 v. and a good supply of magazines and papers.

Asbury Park, N. J. The members of the Ariel Cyclers, a local association, are making an effort to raise funds for a public library.

Atlanta (Ga.) Woman's Club. The Columbian Book Co. has given a large number of books that were lent by it to the library of the Woman's Building. A number of gentlemen have subscribed for several monthlies. The club is hardly three months old and already has over 100 members, apartments of its own, a club badge, membership in the General Federation, and about \$700 in its treasury.

Bay Ridge (L. I.) F. L. A public subscription of \$10,000, to be devoted to the erection of a new library building, was recently started,

and a large part of the sum is now subscribed. A site for the proposed building has been given to the library authorities by E. W. Bliss, of Bay Ridge. It is planned to erect a two-story brick structure, trimmed with brown-stone; the first floor will contain reference-room, reading-room, and stack-room; the second floor will be partly given up to the local historical society.

Boston (Mass.) P. L. has opened a West End Branch at the corner of Cambridge and Lynde streets. The city of Boston bought the West church premises for \$55,000, turned it over to the trustees of the public library, and appropriated \$30,000 to remodel and furnish it as a branch library. Private individuals contributed books and nearly \$5000 in money for the purchase of books. It contains nearly 9000 books, and a periodical reading-room with some 80 current magazines.

A movement is on foot to bring the library and the schools into closer relationship. It is proposed to make the schools branch libraries to a certain extent, supplying them with reference-books and books for supplementary reading, and to have the teachers look more closely after the reading of the scholars. The estimated expense will be about \$10,000.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) L. HOW BROOKLYN'S LIBRARY GREW (in the *N. Y. Herald*, Jan. 26, 1896). 1 col. il.

Canandaigua, N. Y. Wood L. A. The association has procured a loan library of 100 volumes from the state, and for the next three months the library will be thrown open to the public free. This is done in hopes that the circulation will be so increased that in the spring the citizens will unite in some movement to make it for the future a free library with state aid. This change took effect on Saturday, January 25, 1896, the library being opened Wednesdays and Saturdays, mornings and afternoons, and until eight o'clock in the evening.

Chattanooga (Tenn.) L. Assoc. Added 125; total 4841; circulation 7427. Receipts \$1198.28; disbursements \$1110.16. A lyceum course of five lectures is in progress.

Cleveland, O. Case L. An interesting exhibition of portraits found in books, together with a few choice miniatures loaned from private collections, the whole intended to illustrate portraiture and miniature art, was held at the Case Library on Jan. 9-11; it was followed by an exhibition of a complete set of the Soderholtz photographs of the Boston Public Library on Jan. 16-18.

Cocoa, Fla. The Avilale Library and Reading-room has been opened to the public.

Columbus (O.) P. L. Added 2866; total 22,875. Circulation 85,242, of which 43,729 were fiction, 11,472 juvenile, 4324 history, 2174 travel, 2514 biography. 2439 new privileges were granted; total enrolment 4460. Receipts \$6408.28; disbursements \$6397.78.

Concord (N. H.) P. L. The Public Library will soon have its first catalog completed. It

has been making since July 1, 1895, under the efficient direction of Mr. G. W. C. Stockwell, of the state library school at Albany, and the work has gone on more rapidly than was estimated. The library will later undergo rearrangement according to its new call numbers based upon the Dewey classification and Cutter author-table.

Council Bluffs (Ia.) F. P. L. (14th rpt.) Added 1371; total 14,762. Issued 62,970 (fict. 38,935); magazines issued 3895; lost and paid for 12; rebound 316. New borrowers 959; total registration 5868. Receipts \$8521.63; expenses \$6443.92.

"On the 1st of November, 1894, Mrs. Maria F. Davenport resigned her position as librarian after holding it for over 12 years. Mrs. Davenport rendered most efficient aid in organization of the library and always discharged her duties with zeal, faithfulness, and intelligence. Miss Elizabeth Peterson is now librarian."

Dallas, Tex. The school board at its January meeting voted to purchase 1050 v. (372 titles) for the public school libraries. The list was prepared by the superintendent and teachers and had been approved by the library committee.

Dedham (Mass.) P. L. A branch library and reading-room was opened at the Avery school-building at East Dedham, Jan. 20. The library is to be supplied with the leading dailies and magazines, and books of reference for the use of the public. The reading-room will be open every evening from 7 to 9:30, and will be under the direction of the trustees of the public library. The building, one of the finest of the kind in the state, was begun in 1894 and finished last fall. It cost \$45,000.

Flint (Mich.) P. L. \$300 worth of new books have recently been added. There is pressing need of a new catalog.

Glens Falls, N. Y. Crandall F. L. Total, 5891. Circulation for the year 37,259, including literature 1612, travel 1613, biography 1113, history 1293, fiction 30,270. Receipts \$1438; expenditures \$1325.99. \$200 will be received from the state in February. It is claimed that in proportion to the number of volumes in the library it had the largest circulation in the state.

Greenwich, Ct. Milbank Memorial L. The new building presented to the Reading-Room and Library Association by Mrs. Elizabeth Milbank Anderson was dedicated January 14.

The structure is of granite and of imposing appearance. A wide, tiled hall with a mammoth fireplace separates the reading-rooms on the main floor and gives a pleasing, homelike impression. The fittings throughout are solid and artistic, the bookcases and trimmings being of polished oak. In the south room there is a massive oak mantel on the sides of which are two beautifully carved panels. One represents the state seal of Connecticut, while upon the other is portrayed Gen. Putnam's historic ride down a steep hill to escape the British soldiers. Miss Mary Miller is the librarian.

Kansas City, Mo. The Commercial Club has begun the formation of a statistical library, and a number of state and government publications as well as other books have been presented.

Leavenworth (Kan.) P. L. A. The association has opened its new home in the Ryan building. There have been about \$300 worth of books ordered to begin with, and as soon as more money is raised it will be immediately turned into books. The Whittier Club has presented about \$150 worth of books, and other donations have been made to the association of books, furniture, and ornaments. The library will be kept open on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons from 2 until 5:30 o'clock, and on Saturday evenings from 7 until 9 o'clock.

The ladies of the W. C. T. U. have kindly loaned a bookcase, and 300 volumes of standard works. All money received for membership fees will be used in buying new books, there being absolutely no expense incurred in the maintenance of the library. The reading-room is free.

Lloyd's Neck, L. I. Mrs. Marsh, a wealthy resident of Lloyd's Neck, has opened a reading-room near the two large brick-yards at West Neck, in comfortable quarters, which are supplied with newspapers, magazines, and such other literature as is available. The room is open evenings, and is crowded every evening by men who have heretofore patronized liquor-saloons. They enjoy the new privileges exceedingly. The room and its advantages are free to all, but few except the brick-yard laborers are so situated as to be able to take advantage of them.

Los Angeles, Cal. The mayor in his annual address says: "The monthly average of books taken from the public library is almost equal to one-half of the population of the city, and is evidence of the fact that the public fully appreciates the great value of this library as a source of education and recreation."

Lynn (Mass.) P. L. Added 2237; total 51,488; circulation 119,549. A new building is very much needed; the trustees ask for an increase of \$1000 in the appropriation for this year. There has been a notable increase in the use of reference-books and a greater call for standard works on the part of the patrons of the library.

Macon (Ga.) P. L. The task of making a new catalog of the library has been undertaken by Miss B. Blackshear, the assistant librarian. No books will be withdrawn from circulation, and the library will not be closed. The catalog will not be printed, but will be arranged in a Rudolph indexer.

Nashua (N. H.) P. L. The famous library site matter, which has been before the city government of Nashua and the courts of New Hampshire for over three years, has been settled so far as the location is concerned by the aldermen voting to take the lot by right of

eminent domain. The sum of \$10,164.44 was awarded to each of the three owners of the lot.

Naugatuck, Ct. Howard Whittemore Memorial L. Added 625; total 4057. Circulation 17,256, fiction 14,977. Receipts \$2966.76; disbursements \$2561.15. Endowment fund \$40,000.

New Orleans (La.) P. L. The rearrangement of the criminal court building for the purposes of a public library is approaching completion and bids have been asked for the fittings, leaving it open to the bidders to suggest the construction of the stacks. The plans show a handsome room some 43 feet in height, 102 feet wide, 136 feet long, of which the west end is occupied by the offices of the school board.

On entering the room by a broad flight of stairs the reader will find himself in a broad, open space surrounded by the delivery-desk; on his right is the portion set apart for a reference library, on the left that for a circulating library. Facing the door of entry are stairs leading to a gallery 20 feet wide and 136 feet long. In this are well-lighted study-rooms. Ample space is allotted for periodical and news rooms.

It is to be regretted that up to the present there has been no assurance that the circulating library will be provided immediately.

Newport, R. I. Redwood L. and Athenaeum. (165th rpt.) Added 757; total 41,336. Issued, home use, 13,291 (fict. 65%). Receipts \$5357.82; expenses \$5192.63.

Additional shelving has been put in the book-room, giving room for about 11,000 volumes; this improvement has allowed a "systematic, orderly arrangement of most of the subjects in the library."

North Adams (Mass.) P. L. Added 678; total 14,270 v., 679 pm. Circulation 58,170; fiction 51.7 per cent.; juvenile fiction 26.1. 597 v. were loaned on teachers' cards for school use. Receipts and expenditures \$3565.49.

Norwalk (O.) Y. M. L. A. Added 264; circulation 8300; membership 295. Receipts \$665.31; disbursements \$508.47; funds in hand \$3208.81.

Orange (N. J.) P. L. Added 1355; total 7905. Circulation 34,871. Reading-room attendance 5700 men, 1026 women, 2506 boys, 643 girls; total 9875. Number of persons using reference-room 493. Closed eight holidays, and two weeks in July for re-classification of the fiction and bibliography. Receipts for the year \$3719.85 disbursements \$2719.62. Proceeds of the woman's edition of the *Orange Chronicle* issued April 3, \$2187.70.

Pawtucket (R. I.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 948; total 14,765; circulation 46,653; issued on school-cards 11,510 v. Its strong point is the work with the young, both in the public schools and in the reading-room. The report expresses pleasure at the large number of young women who spend many hours in the reading-room

on Sunday. The average Sunday attendance was 274; the largest 612. The trustees attribute the success of the institution to the efficient management of the librarian and her well-trained assistants.

Paxton, Ill., has a subscription library of between 600 and 700 v.; rate one dollar per year; membership 95; circulation 1664 v. A reading-room has been open three nights and one afternoon each week, but the attendance will not warrant its continuance.

Philadelphia: Drexel Institute. The Charles H. Jarvis Memorial Library of Music was opened to the public on the evening of Feb. 3. The collection, which consists of over 1000 bound volumes, was presented to the institute soon after Mr. Jarvis's death, and in accordance with his expressed wish, by his daughters. A card catalog is now in preparation and the leading books of reference on music in the library will be placed with the memorial collection. A piano has been placed in the room devoted to it, and the trustees intend to make the collection thoroughly available to all persons interested in the subject.

Philadelphia P. L., Branch No. 1. The statistics for the year ending Oct. 15, 1895, are as follows: Added 4687; total 20,388. Issued 294,423, being an increase of 70,293 over 1894 and an increase of 149,186 over 1893, the first year of the library's existence. Largest daily circulation 1944; average daily circulation 926.

Philadelphia P. L., College Settlement Branch. The College Settlement Branch of the Free Library has moved into its new quarters, at the corner of Seventh and Lombard streets, the whole second floor of that building being occupied by the library, comprising a spacious, well-appointed circulation-room, with a smaller room set apart for readers. This branch of the Free Library was opened on the 1st of October, 1894, and its progress has been very satisfactory. The greatest drawback to the work was the want of sufficient room for books and readers.

This branch reaches a class of residents not otherwise provided with library facilities, who from their ready desire to acquire a knowledge of history and biography have proved how wise a step it was to plant a small library right at their doors. The work has been enhanced by the addition of lectures, and it can hardly be but that in the course of another year the development taking place there will be not only remarkable in itself, but a real municipal benefit.

Philadelphia Diocesan L. and Reading-room was opened in the P. E. Church House Jan. 20, 1896. Bishop Whitaker presided at the exercises. Bishop Potter made an address in which he said he hoped the library would classify itself into two departments. There are certain books which will never be outlived by time. He trusted the time would come when there would be the alcove library, the understanding being that such books are not to be taken away. A dozen copies might be procured of a new book that deserves to live, and a clergymen should

have the privilege of writing for it and having its use for two weeks. It would make a delightful change in the quality and quantity of preaching. The library now numbers more than 6000 volumes.

Pittsburgh (Pa.) L. A. The librarian's report shows that during the two months that the Carnegie Library has been in operation the membership of the subscription library increased more than any corresponding period in the past five years. 4000 v. of public documents have been transferred to the Carnegie Library.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY PLANS. (In *Providence Journal*, Jan. 19, 1896.) 4 cols. with plans.

Racine (Wis.) L. Assoc. has adopted a resolution requesting the mayor and common council to submit to the electors of the city, at the April election, the question of the levying a tax not exceeding one-fourth of one mill on each dollar of taxable property of the city of Racine for the purpose of creating a library fund for establishing and maintaining a public library.

Rhode Island, Free Public Libraries in. "During the past year the number of free public libraries has increased by one, there being now 45 in the state. The amount of aid awarded from the state has been during the year \$5653.75, an increase of \$153.75 over the amount awarded during the previous year. The number of patrons of the libraries during the past year was 53,303, a gain of 874 over the preceding year. There has been a gratifying increase in the total number of volumes during the year of 14,559, making the aggregate number of volumes at the end of the year 247,233. In circulation there has been a marked increase, the gain for the year being 40,619, making a total circulation for 1895 of 421,163."—*Message of Gov. Lippitt.*

Rochester (N. Y.) Central L. The Central Library of Rochester is described in an illustrated two-column article in a recent issue of the *Rochester Union*. It includes views of the interior of the library and a biographical sketch, with portrait, of Mrs. Katherine J. Dowling, who has been the librarian since 1881.

St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile L. Added 3416; total 93,002. Circulation 94,135 (fiction 64.36%). Total membership 3643. Receipts \$53,393.22; expenditures \$53,287.96, including a final payment of \$3559 to wipe out the floating debt. A bonded indebtedness of \$250,000 has been placed successfully, and \$2000 of the \$2500 commission due for this has been paid.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. Expenditures for 1895 were \$49,469, which was less than the appropriations. Appropriations for 1896 amount to \$53,800, of which \$5000 are for the book fund. 2427 v. were issued from the delivery stations during December, the first month of their establishment. An additional station has been opened. Daily issue of books for home reading in December was 37,533 v. 923 new readers were enrolled; total 32,867.

St. Paul (Minn.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 3164; total 40,773. Circulation 186,336; reference use 54,829. Percentage of circulation: fiction 42.12; juvenile 29.37; history and biography 8.62; science and art 8.06; voyages and travels 4.24; language and literature 3.04; poetry and drama 2.60. Holders of cards 10,471. Teachers' cards, allowing holder to draw four books at one time to be used in school work, 478, an increase of 149 in the year.

A number of capitalists have made a proposition to erect a new library building for the city on terms which have not yet been fully agreed upon.

Sante Fe, New Mex. The Woman's Board of Trade and Library Association established Jan. 15 a free library and reading-room, which will be open on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3 to 5 and from 7 to 10 p.m.

Sea Cliff (L. I.) P. L. has been on the point of closing, but the Improvement Association, which started it, again took hold of it and its success is assured for another year at least. Added during year 529. 125 loaned by state library. Circulation for year 2614.

Seattle (Wash.) P. L. "There is a decided difference of opinion in the charter commission as to the advisability of retaining a library commission. . . . The imposition of a fee of 10 cents per month for use of books, although almost necessary as a temporary expedient, cannot but be regarded as an interference with the usefulness of the institution. It has scarcely checked the demand for ephemeral fiction, but has seriously lessened the circulation of works of an educational character. It would be no hardship to continue the fee for works of fiction if the funds thus derived could be devoted to the purchase of new books for that department. The function of a public library, maintained at public cost, is not to supply paper-covered novels of transient popularity; it is to put in the hands of the public expensive and valuable works whose price puts them beyond the reach of the average citizen.

"The library has suffered in common with all public and private institutions on account of the hard times; and for that reason has not of late attained the place it should hold in public estimation. There is, nevertheless, so much of good in it, and the opportunities of extending its usefulness are so great, that its management should be changed only with great care, especially with a view to keeping it beyond the reach of office-seeking politicians."—*Post-Intelligencer*.

Shelton, Ct. Plumb Memorial L. was dedicated early in December, 1895. It is the gift of Horace S. Plumb, of Bridgeport, in memory of his brother David Wells Plumb. It is built of red Windsor Hill sandstone from the ground to the window-sills, and of salmon-tinted brick above. The main roof is of red slate, and that of the tower of Spanish tiles. The various cornices and other metal work are of copper,

tinted green. The main entrance is of stone elaborately carved. The interior contains a central hall, reading-room, book-room, trustees' room, and librarian's room, all finished in quartered oak, richly panelled and carved. It has room for 10,000 v.

Spokane (Wash.) P. L. (1st rpt.) Added 585 v.; total 2494 v.

Stratford (Ct.) L. A. The handsome memorial library building given to the Stratford Library Association by the late Birdseye Blakeman, of New York, was dedicated Jan. 16, with impressive and interesting ceremonies at the town hall. Since its erection the structure of marble and granite in the centre of the old town has attracted much admiration. Its architecture is classic and in every way it is a model home for a public library.

The property is valued at \$40,000 and there is an endowment fund of \$2500. There is also an appropriation of \$5000 left by Mr. Blakeman to be applied to the purchase of such reference and standard works as the association shall select. The library now has an accumulation of 4000 books. Mr. Blakeman gave the grounds and building as a monument to his ancestors, the Rev. Adam Blakeman and Deacon Joel Birdseye, who were natives of the town.

Addresses were made by C. D. Hine, secretary of the state board of education, Judge H. J. Curtis, and the Rev. Timothy Dwight, D.D., LL.D., president of Yale University.

Topeka (Kan.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 621; total 13,286. Circulation 80,742; reference use 5688. 3002 Sunday visitors in 1895 as against 3344 in 1894. Receipts \$4833.67; expenditures \$5027.05.

Mrs. Evelyn Lewis is librarian.

Troy (N. Y.) Y. M. L. A. Added 1592; circulation 53,192; consultation 18,500. 616 v. were the gift of Warren K. Southwick. A portion of the library of the late D. W. Tuthill has been promised. Receipts \$8298.81; disbursements \$6060.20. Total investments \$48,381.44.

"We have watched with pardonable pride the growth of the beautiful marble structure on the corner of Second and Ferry streets, destined by the munificence of Mrs. William Howard Hart to be our future home. It is expected that possession will be given some time in the present year."

Warren (Pa.) L. A. Added 493; total 8374. Circulation 48,144; no. borrowers 1423.

At the annual meeting in January official announcement was made of the death of the late president, A. D. Wood, and a suitable memorial record was read and adopted. Mr. Wood had been a member of the association upwards of 20 years, and an officer for 13 years. He had actively co-operated for several years with library workers throughout the state for suitable legislation in behalf of free public libraries. That the library is free is due more to Mr. Wood's efforts than to those of any other person.

Washington, D. C. THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY. (In *New York Tribune*, Feb. 2.) 4 col., with il.

A description of the new building, signed R. C.

Waukegan (Ill.) P. L. After two years' work on the part of a number of public-spirited people a free public library has been established here and is now open. The shelves hold about 900 well-selected volumes that have been secured by gift or purchase.

Westbrook (Ct.) P. L. was opened Jan. 16 to the public for the first time. The library now consists of about 600 volumes; In a short time these will be augmented by \$150 worth of books, to be given by the state and town. Donations are expected from several sources.

Wisconsin State Hist. Soc. L. The Tank collection of books in the Dutch language, one of the possessions of the society library, appears destined to play a considerable part in the deliberations of the Venezuelan commission. The Hon. Andrew D. White, one of the commissioners, has written to President Adams, of the State University, asking him to search the Tank collection for any historical works or atlases bearing upon the boundaries of old Dutch Guiana. An examination of the books in this department reveals the presence of several which bear authoritative contemporary testimony as to the extent of the Dutch claims in Guiana, to which England succeeded in 1803. A translator and draughtsman are now busy in extracting this information for the service of the commission.

The Tank library was presented to the library in 1867 by the late Mrs. Otto Tank, of Fort Howard. It was the library of her father, an Amsterdam clergyman named Van der Meulen. The collection consists of 5000 old and rare volumes, mostly in the Dutch language—probably the largest collection of Dutch books in America. Nearly half of them are richly bound in vellum, and many are profusely illustrated with 17th-century copper-plate engravings; in the collection are numerous Bibles, atlases and charts, old editions of the classics, early lexicons, and historical works of great value. Nearly every title thus far selected, as bearing upon the ancient boundaries of Guiana, is a work or authority not to be found in the catalog of any Eastern library.

FOREIGN.

Belfast (Irel.) F. P. L. (7th rpt.) Added, lending l. 269; ref. l. 382; total, lending l. 16,584; ref. l. 16,385. Issued, lending l. 201,433, a decrease of 11,969 from the figures of 1893-4 (fict. 68.06%); ref. lib. 50,508, an increase of 10,448 over previous year. Visitors to news-room 927,079. Borrowers 6954.

Pages 12-18 are devoted to a table showing the "number of times notable and popular books have been issued." Captain Marryat's "Poor Jack" leads with 214 issues.

Bradford (Eng.) P. F. Ls. (25th rpt.) Added 2327; total 77,693. Issued 581,340 ("general literature and fiction" 468,723; no. visits 929,-

148. New borrowers 10,756. Receipts £5891.12.8; expenses £5632.16.6.

Besides the Central Lending L. and Central Reference L. there are eight branch libraries.

JARVIS, A. W. The reading-room and iron library of the British Museum. (Pages 224-233 of *Pall Mall mag.*, Feb., 1896.) With 12 il.

London. British Museum L. British Museum authorities have no right to exclude persons from their reading-room according to a recent London County Court decision. They had undertaken to keep out one of the eccentric nuisances who plead their own cases in English courts, but the court held that the collections by statute are "free to all studious and curious persons" so long as they observe the regulations.

London (Can.) P. L. The new library building was formally dedicated on the evening of December 26, 1895. Addresses were made by Hon. Mr. Ross, minister of education, Mayor Little, the Bishop of Huron and others. The total cost of the handsome new building and site was \$20,318.

The NATIONAL HOME-READING UNION, an English society intended "to promote systematic reading, recreative and instructive, among young and old, as a means of continued education," has a vigorous Canadian branch, with headquarters in Montreal. There are three separate courses—special, general, and young people's, each divided into five or ten special subjects. No member of the Union can take more than three subjects in the course chosen. The membership fees range from 40c. to \$1, and lists of the books required, with rules regulating the study, are supplied from the parent society in England.

Nuneaton, Eng. It appears that the town of Nuneaton, in which George Eliot was born, is not possessed of a library. A movement has been started to establish one there in memory of the novelist. It is proposed that it be called the George Eliot Memorial Library, and that readers of her books everywhere should subscribe money and present books for the building. Persons desiring to contribute, or who wish to know more about the plan, may address A. F. Cross, editor of the *Observer*, at Nuneaton.

Quebec (Can.) F. P. L. It is stated that a proposition which has the approval of the mayor will shortly be brought before the members of l'Institut Canadien, to the effect that the institute shall make over its building to the city, on consideration of the payment of its debt, amounting to about \$10,000, and rooms rent free in the new city hall, and a subsidy of \$600 for the purchase of books for its library, which is to be open, gratis, to the public.

South Shields (Eng.) P. L. (22d rpt.) Added 553; total 22,104. Issued, home use 99,880 (fict. 62.05%); ref. use 15,521; 1011 v. have been bound or rebound. New borrowers 1165; total registration 13,947. Receipts £1710.1.11,

Librarians.

BELL, Mrs. Helen D., has been elected state librarian of Mississippi.

COWELL, Peter. A good portrait of Mr. Peter Cowell and a sketch of his work as librarian of the Liverpool Public Library, together with an account of the library itself, is given in the London *Publishers' Circular* of Jan. 11, under the heading "Public libraries and librarians of to-day."

DEXTER, Miss Lydia A., for five years cataloger at the Newberry Library, resigned her position there the 1st of December, and has been elected a member of the staff of the John Crerar Library.

DRISCOLL, Miss Emma, was re-elected librarian of the Spokane (Wash.) Public Library at the meeting of the library commission in January.

HAGER, Miss Priscilla F., librarian of the Everett (Mass.) Public Library, was succeeded on Feb. 3 by Miss Ellen L. Johnson. Miss Hager resigned her position last autumn, but her successor was not appointed for several months. She had been librarian of the Everett Library since March 17, 1879, and was obliged to withdraw on account of ill-health. Resolutions expressing the indebtedness of the library and community to her labors were passed by the trustees when accepting her resignation.

WELLS, A. T., who for nearly 32 years has been librarian of the Jefferson County Library Association, Fairfield, Ia., resigned Jan. 16. In recognition of his long service he was elected honorary librarian. Mrs. Thomas Hoffman was appointed his successor.

WOODS, Miss Amelia, assistant librarian at the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, died on February 5, after an illness of about one month's duration. Miss Woods had been connected with the Brookline Library for the past 27 years.

Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON P. L. has, it is pleasant to note, resumed the publication of its valuable quarterly *Bulletin*. The issue of a "double number" for July and October, 1895, completes the volume for the past year, and it is to be hoped that publication will be uninterrupted in 1896. In this double number the "Chronological index to historical fiction" is continued, to cover Russia, Poland, the Eastern empire, Turkey, and Servia; there is also a list of works in the Russian language (72 p.); while a full catalog of the German fiction in the library, including translations from the German, and a list of the additions made to the department of English fiction since July, 1893, completes what may be termed a "fiction number" of much interest.

The CAMBRIDGE (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin*, no. 1 of vol. 1, for January, 1896, is an attractive little square 32-page pamphlet recording current

accessions, with brief critical and descriptive notes; it is intended for free distribution, and will also contain from time to time special reading and reference lists.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY. Library bulletin. Vol. 3, no. 9. p. 289-312, O.

Contains "Recent publications by Cornell University and its officers" and "List of additions."

The DENVER P. L. has issued, in leaflet form, two excellent reading lists, on "Abraham Lincoln: selections and books" (85 titles), and "Washington and patriotism: selections and references" (175 titles). The latter is compiled by Charlotte A. Baker. The references include books, magazine articles, poems, dialogues, and extracts suitable for recitation.

HELENA (Mont.) P. L. Bulletin 16, December, 1895. 24 p. D.

Devoted to "The reading of young people"; the classed lists of suitable and interesting books are prefaced by a short introduction on the importance of rightly guiding children's reading and by a brief note of some "Valuable lists of books for the young."

HOBOKEN (N. J.) F. P. L. Alphabetischer Katalog, 1896. 46 p. O.

Author, title, and subject list of the German books in the library.

The NEW BEDFORD (Mass.) P. L. has issued the first (January) number of a *Monthly bulletin*, which contains besides the "List of books added in December, 1895," "Reference list no. 1," on "The Monroe doctrine." The list is prefaced by a short note, stating that "lists of books and magazine articles relating to questions of special public interest are printed in the daily papers from time to time as occasion demands. More complete lists on the same topics and on other important topics will appear in the monthly bulletins. There will be no attempt to make these lists complete bibliographies of the subjects taken up, but they will be lists of the available material in this library."

NOTTINGHAM (Eng.) F. P. Ls. List of music and the literature of music. (600 v.) 3d ed., Jan., 1896. 12 p. 1½ d.

The alphabetical author-list is followed by "Analytical indices," classed under Vocal music, Instrumental music, and Literature of music.

The OTIS L. (Norwich, Ct.) *Bulletin* for February contains a short reading-list on "The Monroe doctrine."

The PORTLAND (Ore.) P. L. gives in the December issue of *Our Library* "Oregon check-list no. 3," listing the public documents owned by the library and those desired to complete sets.

PRATT INSTITUTE (Brooklyn, N. Y.) F. L. Finding-list. Part 1, fiction; Part 2, children's list. 1895. 116+12 p. O. 35 c.

Part 1 of this list is a second edition of the first fiction-list issued by the library, including

accessions up to August, 1895. Part 2 is an interesting classed list of books for children, which includes a careful selection of classics and standard authors. The list is printed by the linotype process on heavy manila paper.

THE PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin* devotes the admirable reference lists in its November issue to John Keats and Old Testament study. In the December number Polar exploration and Torquato Tasso are the subjects covered.

THE SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* devotes its January special reading-lists to Armenia, Mohammedanism, and Venezuela and Gulana.

SCRANTON (Pa.) P. L. *Bulletin*, no. 4; additions of November and December, 1895. 8 p. O.

TUFTS L., *Weymouth, Mass.* *Bulletin*, no. 29. Jan. 1, 1896. 32 p.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK has issued as "Extension Bulletin no. 11" an interesting summary of the chief study clubs of the state. The study club division of the extension department aims to aid study clubs, which expect of their members study, reading, and usually some writing between meetings; and reading circles whose members are following a systematic course of reading, with more or less frequent meetings for discussion. A club or circle of at least five members pursuing a 10 weeks' systematic course of reading or study on a single subject is entitled to registration on the university lists, and may then for small fees borrow travelling libraries, apparatus, photographs, lantern-slides, and other illustrative material, may take without charge from the state library books for use at single meetings, and share other privileges which the Regents offer to organized groups of students. The bulletin gives constitutions suitable for such clubs, brief accounts of administrative organizations for aiding study clubs and of the registered New York clubs, a selection of the best programs of study used by such clubs, and statistics of 176 study clubs and reading circles in New York and other states; it includes an exhaustive index.

WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January continues the "special list" on Turkey and the Armenian question begun in the December number; it also contains the first part of a list of works on political economy and allied topics. The library has issued an interesting "special bulletin," covering English history, biography, and historical fiction, classed chronologically according to historical periods.

CHANGED TITLES.

"Jack Archer, a tale of the Crimea," by G. A. Henty. Boston, Roberts, 1884, and "The fall of Sebastopol, or, Jack Archer in the Crimea," by G. A. Henty, Boston, Charles E. Brown [no date], are the same. Both are printed by Wilson. Defective types show that they are from the same plates.—JOHN EDMANDS.

Bibliography.

BOOK-PLATES. Labouchere, Norna. Ladies' book-plates: an illustrated handbook for collectors and book-lovers. Lond., Bell, 1895. 372 p. 16°, 8s. 6d.

CURRENCY. W. A. Shaw's "History of currency, 1252-1894," of which a second edition has been recently issued (London, 1896), contains a good 2-p. list of authorities on the subject.

DAHOMEX. Pawloski, A. (A.-P. de L.). *Bibliographie raisonnée des ouvrages concernant le Dahomey* (Popos, Juda, Porto-Novo, Dahomey, Mahi). Paris, L. Baudouin, 1895. 8°, 47 p. 1.50 fr.

Reprinted from the *Revue maritime*.

DRAMA, *Italian*. Salvioli, Giov. and Car. *Bibliografia universale del teatro drammatico italiano*, con particolare riguardo alla storia della musica italiana, dalle origini del teatro italiano e del dramma musicale sino ai nostri giorni, con note illustrative, indici copiosi, appendici e supplementi periodici. V. 1., disp. 2-4. Venezia, Carlo Ferrari, 1895. 8°. 2.50 lire.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE, *Eng.* Hyett, Francis Adams, and Bazeley, William. The bibliographers' manual of Gloucestershire literature: being a classified catalogue of books, pamphlets, broadsides, and other printed matter relating to the county of Gloucester or to the city of Bristol, with descriptive and explanatory notes. v. 1. Gloucester, John Bellows, 1895. 8°, 16+331 p. (350 cop.)

Reviewed and praised for its careful arrangement in *The Library*, Dec., 1895.

JUVENAL. In the Western Reserve University *Bulletin* for Oct., 1895, is a valuable bibliography of Juvenal.—E. W. HALL.

MAYAS. "Die Maya-litteratur und der Maya-apparat zu Dresden" is the title of a careful bibliography by K. Haebler, which appears in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* for December, 1895 (p. 537-575). Besides listing the works on the subject (including magazine articles, papers in the transactions of societies, etc.) that are contained in the Royal Library of Dresden, Dr. Haebler notes also works with which he is unacquainted, but which come within the bounds of his subject. The list gives first the literature of the Mayan monuments, and then that of the various Maya cities, arranged alphabetically by the name of the city; an author index is appended.

NAPOLÉON. Lumbroso, Alb. *Saggio di una bibliografia ragionata per servire alla storia dell'epoca napoleonica*. V. 5. Modena, Angelo Namias e C., 1895. 8°, p. 15+144. (200 cop.)

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Publishers' Weekly, July 6, Oct. 5, 1895. Also any of the August numbers, '95.
Literary News, Feb., Oct., Nov., 1895.
Library Journal, August, 1894; Jan., Feb., March, November, '95.

Boston Book Co., 15½ Beacon St., Boston, Mass.
Christian Literature, Jan., 1893.
Mag. of Amer. Hist., Mch., May, June, July, Oct., 1877; Oct., '90; July, Sept., '93.
Engineering Mag., Sept., 1893.
Brownson's, July, 1862; Jan., '64.
Overland Monthly, Nov., 1868; Mch., Aug., '83; good price.

BOOKS WANTED.—Continued.

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1st 6 v. of the *Ladies' Home Journal*.

Harvard Co-operative Soc., Cambridge, Mass.
Hunt, T. S., Chemical and Geol. Essays. 1875.
Burney's History of Music.
Epitta's Life of Bach.

Karl W. Hiersemann, Buchhaendler, Leipzig (Germany), Koenigsstrasse 2.
Complete set of *The Library Journal*.

Howard Memorial Library, New Orleans, La.
Short Stories and Reminiscences of the Last Fifty Years, by an Old Traveller, 2 v., 187. N. Y., 1842.
Hearn, Lafcadio, Some Chinese Ghosts.

Lemcke & Buechner, 812 Broadway, N. Y.
Hayes, The Angora Goat.
Crosby and Bell, Electric Railway.
Modern Language Notes, v. 8, no. 8.
Carleton, The Battle of Buena Vista.
Furber, Twelve Months' Volunteer in the Campaign in Mexico.
Mayer, Hist. of the War Between Mexico and the U. S.

Newark, N. J., Free Publio Library.
Library Journal, Dec., 1879; June, July, Aug., '80; Feb., June, '89.

Gustav E. Stechert, 810 Broadway, N. Y.
Taylor, Thos., Eleusian and Bacchic Mysteries. 1876.
Burpee, Selection in Seed-Growing.
The When and How of Spraying.
Day, Cumming, and Root, Tomato Culture.
Hatton, Secrets of Rose Culture.
Am. Journal of Philology, v. 9.
Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, v. 1 to 5 (1841 to 1851), and all vols. from 1865 to 1870.
Elder, Enchanted Beauty. N. Y., 1855.
Harrison, G., Treatise on Greek Prepositions. 1858.
Æschines and Demosthenes, trans. Biddle, Phila., '81.
Delbruck, Crit. Survey of Compar. Philology. 1885.

E. Steiger & Co., 25 Park Place, New York. [Cash.]
James, Principles of Psychology.
Select Library of Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, 2d ser., v. 2.

Hearn, Glimpses of Unfamiliar Japan, 2 v.
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THE

Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

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MARCH, 1896.

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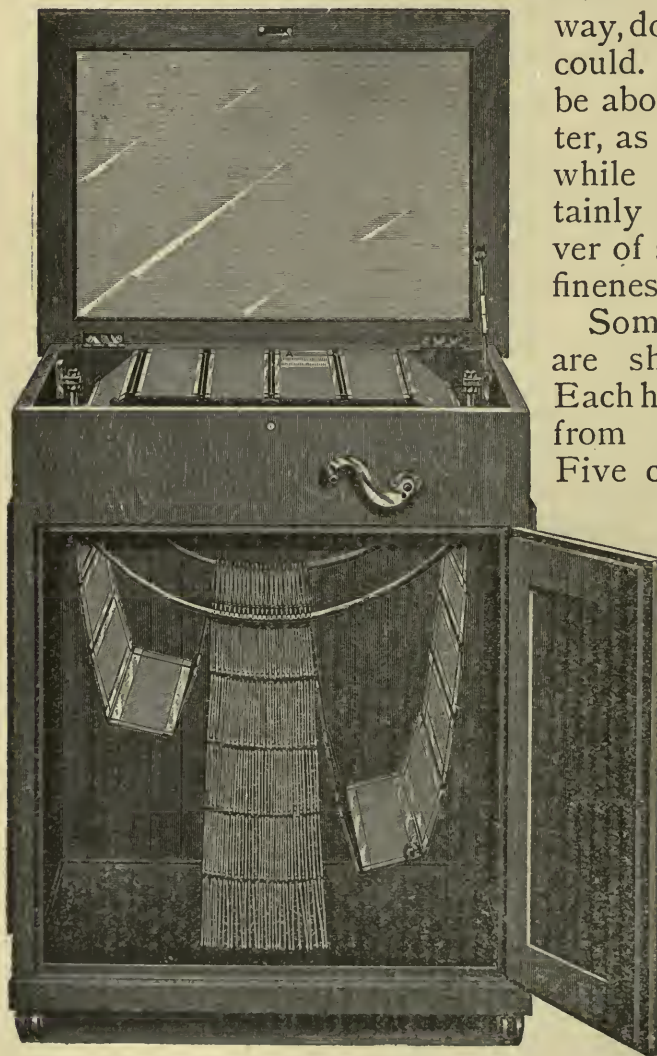
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THE NEW LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, AS SEEN FROM THE CAPITOL.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 21.

MARCH, 1896.

No. 3

THE passage of the bill approved Jan. 12, 1895, under which Mr. F. A. Crandall was appointed Superintendent of documents and has so effectively organized his work, marked a great stride forward in bringing the whole system of government publications out of chaos into order. The bill was, in fact, a code for the regulation of the Government Printing Office, including the question of public documents. But no first bill of this kind can be absolutely comprehensive. Many questions were left for future amendment, and particularly the bill failed to provide for such a revision of the methods of actual publication, *i. e.*, arrangement, printing, and binding, as would prevent the large waste from that cause. At the San Francisco conference the A. L. A. adopted a resolution submitted by the Public documents committee, setting forth that "the present lack of system in the printing, binding, indexing, and distribution of government publications results in great waste, probably exceeding \$500,000 yearly, with a maximum of inconvenience to Congressmen as distributors, and a minimum of convenience to their constituents; in supplying to libraries publications which they do not and cannot use and denying those which would be especially valuable to their local public; and in an entire confusion as to arrangement, indexing, and binding." The methods of distribution and of indexing have been already partially reformed by the new Superintendent of documents. He now proposes, as is set forth elsewhere, to do what he can to remedy the difficulties in printing and in binding.

It is most desirable that, now that a code has been passed, any changes should be made in special amendments to that code, so that there will still be a proper systematization of laws affecting the public printing. Dr. Ames has done most valuable service for years toward this end, and the results of his labors are beginning to be seen, although he has not been permitted to reap the fruits of them. The new superintendent has shown every disposition not only to adopt many of Dr. Ames's ideas but to give him honest credit for them, and it is therefore to be hoped that

there may be full harmony and co-operation between both, so that the bill already offered in Congress may be covered by the new bill which Superintendent Crandall proposes. A part of the \$500,000 possible saving—probably far more than the organization of the new bureau has cost and is costing—has already been saved to the government by the improvements so far; but much of the saving is yet to be effected, and the proposed bill should go a long way toward it. We urge librarians to write at once to Mr. Crandall, in support of his measure, letters which will be useful to him in urging the bill upon Congress, and also, later on, to write directly to Congressmen in advocacy of the measure.

DR. W. N. DU RIEU, of the University of Leyden, in a communication printed elsewhere, sets before American librarians the advantages of a plan for the reproduction, by autotype or other process, of rare historical manuscripts. For some three or four years, as the readers of the JOURNAL are aware, Dr. Du Rieu has worked earnestly for the organization of a "Société internationale pour la reproduction des manuscrits les plus précieux," but he has met with a surprising lack of interest or support on the part of the libraries and institutions appealed to. It is good news that in spite of these discouragements the work has been begun as a private venture, and the first specimens of the manuscripts selected for reproduction will shortly be issued. Naturally, such an undertaking has but a limited *clientèle* to look toward for support. In this country, at least, such fac-similes as it is intended to issue are rather outside the field of the public library proper, for it is questionable whether the public money should be spent for even valuable works of such necessarily limited usefulness. But in the case of university or society libraries and large reference collections, such as the Newberry or Lenox, the circumstances are quite different, and the opportunity which Dr. Du Rieu's plan offers for enriching American libraries with the chief manuscript treasures of the Old World should not pass unheeded. The

usefulness of such fac-similes in reference collections was discussed at the recent meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club, reported elsewhere, and their value in historical study and special investigation is easily appreciable. Dr. Du Rieu's experiment will certainly command the interest of the library profession, and it is to be hoped that the support obtained for it will be sufficient to assure the success of the project and its final shaping into an international organization for the reproduction of rare manuscripts, as was outlined to American librarians by Dr. Hartwig at the Chicago Library Congress.

CLASSIFICATION has long been a stumbling-block and a weariness unto the flesh, and it is therefore with rejoicing that American librarians will learn of a new and simple system, "which presents a logical directness and a freedom from doubt in the classification of books which guarantees not only the entries on all records and simplification of the catalogs, but also readiness in procuring the book." Such a method has been adopted by order of the Central commission of libraries for the university libraries of France, and it is set forth by M. Maire in his recent "*Manuel pratique du bibliothécaire*." It consists in dividing all books into three classes according to their size and storing them on the shelves in the order in which they are received at the library. The simplicity of this method is apparent; it is, undoubtedly, as M. Maire remarks, "a bold innovation, which can perhaps be criticised by persons incompetent in bibliography." Persons competent in that science will probably not venture to criticise it, but will unanimously concede that it is cutting the Gordian knot of classification with a vengeance. One awful possibility remains: the binder with his cruel knife may cut down the rebound volume—and the entire library be thrown into sad confusion when the book returns to be shelved.

It is quite proper that the ministers of religion should also be conservators of public morals—and we may add preservers of the public peace. But it is at least wise that when they become critics they should inform themselves in advance and when practicable by direct personal knowledge, nor should war be declared in defence of the public peace except under due provocation. It has been unfortunate in several recent cases

that clergymen in upholding public morals have made attacks on public libraries without informing themselves fully on the facts and without proper discrimination. That public libraries do need the help of the best citizens, ministers and others, in endeavoring to circulate the best literature, to exclude bad literature, and to minimize the use of even harmless trash, goes without saying, and the minister of the gospel and the librarian ought to be hand in hand in this good work.

Communications.

FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF RARE MSS.

YOU are aware that at the Congress of Librarians, held at Chicago, the project of Prof. Hartwig, of Halle, Saxony, was presented, *i.e.*, to found a society for reproducing autotypically the best and oldest manuscripts, the society to be supported by subscriptions from librarians who should receive a copy of each fac-simile for their library. The subject has not so far been discussed, neither at that time nor in the following congresses of the A. L. A. Since then I have endeavored to found such a society, the Leiden Library being chosen as its headquarters. But most of the libraries appealed to did not answer, and the few libraries that did respond, and approved heartily of this plan of buying yearly a perfect copy of some rare Greek or Latin manuscript, the original of which could never be bought, were too few to cover the expenses of such publication; in all I had only 60 to 70 subscribers. Last May I sent out a circular announcing that the plan would be discontinued for the moment. But different publishers from here and elsewhere urged permission to undertake the matter privately under my direction. At last, having received the permission of several libraries in which are rare mss., which it was intended to reproduce, I accepted the offer of Mr. A. W. Lydhoff at Leiden, who is now occupied in making a specimen of the first mss. of the first series chosen by me, and in printing prospectus and conditions. Please call the attention of the librarians of American universities and learned societies to this undertaking, which is a most worthy one, as these unique mss. are to be reproduced in exact fac-simile of the originals and can in this way enrich the numerous libraries of America.

I am a constant reader of the LIBRARY JOURNAL and know, of course, that American libraries are used by a different public than are our university libraries, but you have many universities in America, and the librarians of those universities should be fully acquainted with this matter, and with the extraordinary occasion it offers of enriching their collections with rare and interesting publications.

W. M. N. DU RIEU, *Chief Librarian*,

LIBRARY OF
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY.

MAINTAINING THE PUBLIC LIBRARY BY ENDOWMENT.*

By M. EMOGENE HAZELTINE, *Librarian James Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown, N. Y.*

"But thousands die without or this or that,
Die, and endow a college or a cat."

WHEN Pope wrote on the use of riches, the colleges, as now, often received endowments; also, as is always the case, less deserving institutions. Pope in his cutting way ridiculed these, and in antithesis sang the praises of the *Man of Ross*, who passed his long life in contriving and advancing plans of public utility. The free public library was not then known; had it been we may be sure this good man would have been one of its zealous supporters.

In our land to-day all corporations and institutions that in any way exist for the public seek endowment from the people, for the people: schools, colleges, churches, Christian associations, hospitals, art galleries, parks—why not the library, that which stands for all, for all classes and conditions, in all times and seasons, the true university of to-day? [Indeed, it is good to note the yearly increase in endowments that come to the public library as the great movement, as yet in its youth, proves itself a mighty factor in the land, worthy of all encouragement and support, worthy this noblest form of enlightened benevolence.

Library endowments fall readily into three classes—partial, entire, and conditional, each a benefit to the work and the cause.

First, a word as to libraries *partially* maintained by endowment:

We frequently hear of a public library, even one supported by taxation, receiving "a fund, the interest of which shall buy books" or possibly "maintain a certain department"—say, of music, theology, American history, Victorian poets. A library may have several such endowments, and it is a pleasant thing for one to say, "I have watched that library, and it is a public servant worthy of aid for all that it has done and will do, and here is help for its future." These endowments, however small, are worthy of mention by the side of the largest, for they are like the widow's cruse, always supplying a need and never failing.

Again, libraries not infrequently are es-

tablished or aided in maintenance by endowment, but have not a sufficient income for a free library, so meet the rest of their expenses by fees or membership tickets. Unless there is much public spirit and energetic administration this combination of endowment and subscription is apt to lag. But it is a start in the right direction, and as the policy of maintaining a library by taxation becomes better known many endowed subscription libraries will substitute taxation for subscription and become free. I might mention several libraries of this class that are struggling in small communities. I can mention, also, others that have attained the goal and are free. So this class is not without hope by any means, but simply unfortunate, with a distinct advantage in that it has a working basis.

Second, there are libraries *entirely* maintained by endowment.

In this class we have, first, the large reference libraries in the cities, and the college library, the importance and value of both of which cannot be overestimated. To dwell upon their advantages is as unnecessary as to tabulate the advantages of the sun to the earth. And a free reference library, except, of course, a state or government library, is impossible without an entire endowment. Endowments are especially adapted for reference libraries, for there is no doubt that it is not right to take the money of the poor to furnish expensive books for members of the learned professions.

But the discussion to-day is more especially upon the application of this principle of endowment to free public libraries in small cities or villages.

Can you not call to mind many communities that have no library, and are not likely to have one unless by endowment? There are two vital conditions in every such place.

First, the condition of lethargy—of letting well enough alone, which is hard to overcome. It requires much education and enlightenment to get the people to tax themselves for libraries. There are dozens of things they think they want more than free libraries. There is rarely a unanimity of opinion on what is most needed. It is quite probable that sewers, pavements, a hos-

* Address, Jan. 10, 1896, before the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club.

pital, a steam fire-engine, a city hall, municipal water-works, would each receive more votes at an election in a growing, energetic town than a free library. It is certain each would have its advocates. To make an intelligent choice of these, all of them equally necessary, is a difficult task for the average voter. He will be inclined to follow the dictation of the political boss.

Second, there is the condition, the potent fact, that a library cannot be afforded, for I know there are many places that are too poor, or too deeply in debt because of schools and improvements, to afford one half-mill more of tax. So communities drift on, not knowing their need, or knowing it are powerless to help themselves.

All this time the colleges are gaining large endowments to educate for four years a few of the youths of these communities. After leaving college, where the best was at his disposal, the graduate may not be able to afford books, may not be where there is a library, and so drifts away from the true benefits of an education. Not that we would take one jot from the college endowment, but we would encourage endowed libraries, and so establish colleges, universities for the many.

Now in contrast, can you not call to mind places with endowed free libraries that otherwise would have had none? It is an advantage to a community to have a library established and maintained by endowment; because it provides facilities for prompt action and gives a library started on a generous basis, with security for future needs.

But you say an endowed library falls short of the mark, because the public do not appreciate it, since they have no part in it—that there is lack of public interest in what costs nothing. It may be possible that after the novelty of an endowed library, in a community that never had access to any library, is worn away, the people sink back, without seeming to appreciate it—not having learned what it means to them. But year by year they grow into an appreciation of it. It takes a little time to work up to it; but how much less time than to work up the same community to tax themselves for a library—to appreciate the fact that they need one, or would be benefited by one.

The statement or theory that an endowed library is not appreciated, it seems to me, is founded upon an insufficient investigation of facts. As representing an endowed library, which is

both circulating and reference, I come to champion the endowed library.

Our library, a handsome structure on a prominent site, has been opened to the public four years. The building was erected "upon honor"—is elegantly appointed, far better than our city could possibly afford. It is a gift in every sense of the word, for the entire expense of maintenance is by endowment (new books, supplies, repairs, and all) and the public have no part or parcel in it except to use it—yet they fully appreciate it:

1. By talking of it—showing it to strangers, counting it as a great educational advantage, classing it among the attractions of the city.

2. Best of all by using it. Its circulation in the four years has increased from 30,000 to 50,000; the use of reading and reference room has increased from 2000 to 19,000, and during the last year 2000 alone have come for study, 17,000 for reading. The per cent. of fiction has declined $3\frac{1}{2}$ in the last year—showing, with the 2000 students, that the library is appreciated as a place of learning as well as a place of amusement. Several literary clubs have been organized—something never before ventured, because there was no foundation upon which they could be sustained. Now the library furnishes a sure foundation. Professional men use it, as well as the teachers and pupils.

From places where endowed libraries are in operation come to me answers to questions relating to appreciation that conclusively show the fact to be that where such libraries exist they are appreciated. Wherever there is failure to appreciate the benefits of a library, it is as often applies to a library not endowed, and is traceable to the administration rather than to the endowment. From these letters also the truth appears that the masses have no thought or care from what source the books come. It may be correctly said that a library supported by taxation is as much an endowed library to three-fifths of the people who use it as one endowed by an individual.

Then, endowed libraries have distinct advantages in themselves.

A first and very positive advantage is that endowed libraries are wholly outside the realm of politics, they are free from political patronage, free from the "spoils" system. Their boards of trustees are generally chosen from the most eminent and reliable of the men in the community, and may or may not be self-perpetuating. The caliber of a self-perpetuating board will often-

times be better than that of one elected in the usual manner, and this for the reason that the electing body knows from personal experience the qualifications that are most necessary for the position.

The objection is frequently heard that self-perpetuating bodies are a hindrance because they do not care for public criticism nor keep themselves in touch with the best modern methods, nor make it apparent that the library exists for the highest good of the whole people. But experience shows that the force of public opinion acts just as effectively to keep such a body from falling into ruts as when it is chosen at a general election. 'We all know that bodies of trustees elected by the people have too often abused their trust, while it would be difficult to find a self-perpetuating board that has not fulfilled its trust. Speaking from my own experience, I know that no board of trustees can be found more eager to serve the public faithfully and well than the one which it is my privilege to serve.

An endowed library has, second, a great advantage in its assured income — be it large or small. Being sure of a certain amount every year, it can lay plans for a steady growth in the right direction, hindered neither by erratic, ignorant, or economical city councils, nor by undue pressure from favor, nor obscured by other city or village enterprises. The educational work of the library can be carried steadily on without fear that its funds will not be voted, without being hampered by the petty quarrels and false, insincere cry of economy that sometimes blight the existence of libraries.

A disadvantage under which endowed libraries sometimes labor are the restrictions created by the donor. But libraries maintained by taxation are often restricted, though in a different way. I quote from a letter written from a library so supported: "If our village government were not in the hands of politicians, who may not always favor the cause of education and its support, then the taxation theory might be thoroughly practical, but at present we are subjected to the petty complaints of the ever-grumbling and narrow-minded. So struggling with a pittance for an income, the ideal library is the endowed one, and we hope to attain it some time."

Surely it is a great advantage to a library to have money always at hand. For then, there is the library, there is an assured income, and there is a board of trustees free from political strife.

There may be said in disfavor of endowed libraries: That there may be want of public interest in what costs nothing, that self-perpetuating trustees may not care for public interests, and that the donor may hamper with restrictions.

But these disadvantages are conditions that may be avoided, and are more than offset by the advantages, especially when we consider that the great free library movement owes much of its impetus and rapid growth to the encouragement received from endowments.

Third. The remaining class of endowed libraries, those *conditionally* endowed, or existing because of endowment foundations, can best be shown by example. Though there are many libraries of this class that we might cite, the Carnegie library system will admirably serve for illustration.

Mr. Carnegie says to a city, in substance: "I will give you so many hundred thousand dollars for a library building, if you will vote so many thousand dollars annually for the maintenance of said library." In presenting the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to the city Mr. Carnegie said: "Many congratulations have been offered me upon having given for this purpose, which I have declined to receive, always saying, however, that I was open to receive the heartiest congratulations upon the city of Pittsburgh having resolved to devote part of its revenues for the maintenance of a library for its people."

To conditionally endow a library is to help a people to help themselves; and it seems as though this would make an ideal library — where the public spirit of a single citizen meets the public spirit of all the citizens; the munificence of one making possible what the munificence, often the self-sacrifice of all, maintains. Yet Mr. Carnegie himself believes in libraries fully endowed, as he proposes to found and fully endow the library at Homestead, Pa.

The whole matter seems to resolve itself into an axiom for every community: *Get a library* — support it by endowment, by taxation, or by both. But whatever method or methods of support are adopted, be sure that its value to the community depends not on the manner of its maintenance, but on its administration, on the kind of books which the library has, on its work for the young people.

That library is most successful, in the sense of being most useful, which has for its foundation not a single theory, but a combination of the best.

A NEW METHOD OF STATING CIRCULATION.

BY ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, PH.D., *Librarian N. Y. Free Circulating Library.*

THE usual method of stating a library's circulation in volumes, while it is probably the best for general purposes, and is undoubtedly the easiest, so far as obtaining the necessary data is concerned, is somewhat incomplete, and even misleading, when a comparison is to be made between the circulations of different classes of books. Thus when we read in a report that the circulation of works of juvenile fiction was, say, 35 percent. of the entire circulation of a given library, while that of history was, say, only 1.5 percent., we naturally consider this as a statement that the former class of books took up about 25 times as much of the attention of the users of the library as did the latter class. This conclusion, however, would be unfair. All that the statistics justify us in concluding is that about 25 times as many books of juvenile fiction as of history were drawn from the library. But a work of juvenile fiction is easily and quickly read. A week's reading in juvenile fiction might be five volumes; whereas in the same time a single volume of history might not be completed. A statement of circulation based on *days* instead of *books* might, therefore, tell a different story, and that story would be, in many respects, a fairer one. Even if it should lower the percentage of juveniles only to 30, and raise that of history only to 3, the ratio between the two would become 10 instead of 25.

It must not be understood that such a method of stating circulation is recommended to supersede the established method. It could do no more than supplement the latter, and the additional labor required in keeping the necessary records would probably prevent its constant employment. It is perfectly feasible, however, to use it occasionally for, say, a month at a time, for purposes of comparison.

Such a trial of the method was made, for one month, in each of the six branches of the New York Free Circulating Library, and the results will be stated and discussed in the present article.

The data were collected as follows: Whenever a book was returned, the attendant at the desk obtained from the book-card the date on which

the book had been drawn, calculated the number of days that it had been out, and set down this number on a slip of paper under the proper class-heading. With a little practice it was found that this could be done so quickly as not to interfere with the ordinary routine. In the few days' practice-trial that preceded the month's use of the method it was found that the use of an ordinary pad or sheet was somewhat troublesome, because the column of figures under the fiction headings reached the bottom of the sheet while there were only a few figures under the other headings, so that the sheet had to be laid aside while still almost empty, and the addition of the numerous short columns on different sheets was bothersome. This trouble was obviated by a simple device, due to Miss Saxer, librarian in charge of the Bond street branch, which was used at all the branches throughout the trial. A common pad or "scratch-book" about six by 10 inches was cut lengthwise into 12 strips, one for each class of the circulation, all the strips remaining attached at the upper end. When any one strip became filled with figures it was torn off and filed away in a box. This proved a satisfactory solution of the only mechanical problem that presented itself.

It will be seen that each sum of numbers thus obtained was the number of days' use of the volumes returned during the month, while the ordinary statement of circulation, with which it was to be compared, was of volumes *given out* during the month. For a period as long as a month, however, the number of volumes returned would be very nearly the same as the number of volumes drawn out, so that very little error was thus introduced. For short periods, on the other hand, these two numbers might differ considerably; hence, conclusions based on a trial of the method for such periods would be unwarranted.

Another unavoidable source of error is the fact that the number of days that a book has been out is not always the number of days required to read it. The book may have been read through in a day, and allowed to lie two or

three days more before it was returned. It is evident, however, that we must be content to take the record calculated from the date on the book-card, as being, if not exactly what we want, at any rate the nearest possible approach to it. Besides, there seems to be no reason why this source of error should affect one class more than another, so that, in the long run, the percentages would not be changed by it.

The circulation of the six branches of the library for the month chosen, both by volumes and by days, is exhibited in the following table, which calls for no special comment:

It will be observed that in all cases, as would be expected, the average number of days of use in juvenile fiction and periodical literature in any branch falls below the total average for that branch, while that of history, literature, philosophy and religion, and science rises above it. Biography, travel, poetry, and art vary considerably. Fiction, however, which might be expected to be below the average, rises in every case above it, the average for the whole library exceeding that of biography, travel, poetry, and art. If fiction could be sub-classified, the probability is that the average for the different sub-

TABLE I. — CIRCULATION BY VOLUMES AND DAYS.

BRANCHES.	Juvenile.	Fiction.	History.	Biography.	Travel.	Poetry.	Literature.	Periodicals.	Philosophy and Religion.	Science.	Art.	Foreign.	Totals.
Bond Street. { Vols.	3,243	2,392	439	181	206	91	329	283	66	402	317	282	8,231
Days	10,050	9,856	2,630	889	835	133	1,762	574	1,962	1,503	1,141	1,141	31,717
Ottendorfer. { Vols.	2,133	4,840	311	217	182	82	490	300	37	247	255	3,360*	9,094
Days	11,505	42,091	2,523	1,805	1,523	657	4,398	2,192	340	2,305	2,347	29,708*	71,686
Geo. Bruce. { Vols.	3,248	6,058	383	277	284	97	250	448	93	250	297	630	12,315
Days	14,784	41,393	3,460	1,922	1,848	514	2,335	1,082	997	2,270	2,224	3,831	76,660
Jackson Sq.. { Vols.	1,787	2,962	227	171	197	79	220	669	52	179	264	232	7,039
Days	8,208	18,707	1,603	1,066	1,262	360	1,399	2,154	517	1,101	1,390	963	38,730
Harlem..... { Vols.	2,886	3,862	236	116	213	36	206	520	26	85	80	56	8,322
Days	14,653	24,821	2,367	539	784	205	1,381	1,592	235	647	682	409	48,315
Muhlenberg { Vols.	1,124	842	103	79	80	21	90	184	10	50	50	67	2,700
Days	6,917	5,988	738	626	658	151	567	532	100	358	382	268	17,285
Whole Library. { Vols.	14,421	20,956	1,699	1,041	1,162	406	1,585	2,404	284	1,213	1,263	4,622*	47,701
Days	66,117	142,856	13,321	6,847	6,910	2,020	11,842	8,126	2,571	8,643	8,528	36,320*	284,393

* The foreign circulation at the Ottendorfer Branch is also distributed among the various other classes.

By dividing in each case the day-circulation by the volume-circulation the following table was obtained :

classes would vary very greatly, falling to that of juvenile fiction for the lighter books and rising to that of history or philosophy for the more

TABLE 2. — AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS THAT BOOKS WERE OUT.

BRANCHES.	Juvenile.	Fiction.	History.	Biography.	Travel.	Poetry.	Literature.	Periodicals.	Philosophy and Religion.	Science.	Art.	Foreign.	Totals.
Bond Street.....	3.1	4.1	6.0	4.9	4.0	1.4	5.3	2.0	5.7	4.8	4.7	4.0	3.8
Ottendorfer.....	5.4	8.7	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.0	8.9	7.3	9.2	9.3	9.2	8.8	7.9
George Bruce.....	4.5	6.8	9.0	5.1	6.5	5.3	9.3	2.4	10.7	9.1	7.4	6.1	6.2
Jackson Square	4.6	6.3	7.0	6.2	6.4	4.5	6.3	3.2	9.9	6.1	5.2	4.1	5.5
Harlem.....	5.1	6.4	10.0	4.6	3.7	5.6	6.7	3.0	9.0	7.6	8.5	7.3	5.8
Muhlenberg.....	6.2	7.1	7.2	7.9	8.2	7.2	6.3	2.9	10.0	7.2	7.6	4.0	6.4
Whole Library.....	4.5	6.8	7.8	6.5	5.9	4.9	7.4	3.3	9.0	7.1	6.7	7.8	5.9

solid ones. The showing is, then, on the whole, a good one, as it may be taken to indicate that a large proportion of the fiction-circulation consists of the better classes of works. As might be expected, the average of philosophy and religion is the highest of all the classes. Poetry is the lowest of all (except the periodicals), doubtless for the reason that in the New York Free Circulating Library most of the poetry drawn out is in the form of collections of verse of which the taker wants some particular piece, and when this has been read or memorized the whole collection is returned. Attention should be called to the exceptionally large juvenile average at the Muhlenberg branch—the only case in which it approaches the general average for the library. This average is just twice as great as that of the Bond street branch for the

same class. The reason probably is that the Muhlenberg branch numbers a very large proportion of young children among its users, and these cannot read with such rapidity as their elders.

It will be seen, however, that books are kept out much longer on the average in some branches than in others; the average, for instance, is twice as great at the Ottendorfer as at the Bond street branch. This may be accounted for by the large number of Germans who use the former, and is perhaps due both to their slower and more thorough reading and to the fact that they do not return the books promptly, also possibly to the unfamiliarity of some with the English language.

The influence of all this on the percentages is shown in the next table :

TABLE 3.—PERCENTAGES OF CIRCULATION BY VOLUMES AND DAYS.

BRANCHES.		Juvenile.	Fiction.	History.	Biography.	Travel.	Poetry.	Literature.	Periodicals.	Philosophy and Religion.	Sciences.	Arts.	Foreign.
Bond Street.....	{ Vols.	39.4	29.1	5.3	2.2	2.5	1.1	4.0	3.4	0.8	4.9	3.9	3.4
	{ Days	31.7	31.1	8.3	2.8	2.6	0.4	5.6	1.8	1.2	6.2	4.7	3.6
Ottendorfer.....	{ Vols.	23.5	53.2	3.4	2.4	2.0	0.9	5.4	3.3	0.4	2.7	2.8	36.9
	{ Days	16.0	58.7	3.5	2.5	2.1	0.9	6.2	3.1	0.5	3.2	3.3	41.4
George Bruce	{ Vols.	26.4	49.2	3.1	2.3	2.3	0.8	2.0	3.7	0.7	2.0	2.4	5.1
	{ Days	19.3	54.0	4.5	2.5	2.4	0.7	3.0	1.4	1.3	3.0	2.9	5.0
Jackson Square.....	{ Vols.	25.4	42.1	3.2	2.4	2.8	1.1	3.1	9.5	0.7	2.6	3.8	3.3
	{ Days	21.2	48.3	4.1	2.8	3.3	0.9	3.6	5.6	1.3	2.8	3.6	2.5
Harlem.....	{ Vols.	34.7	46.4	2.8	1.4	2.6	0.4	2.5	6.2	0.3	1.0	1.0	0.7
	{ Days	30.3	51.4	4.9	1.1	1.6	0.4	2.9	3.3	0.5	1.3	1.4	0.9
Muhlenberg.....	{ Vols.	41.6	31.2	3.8	2.9	3.0	0.8	3.3	6.8	0.4	1.8	1.9	2.5
	{ Days	40.0	34.6	4.3	3.6	3.8	0.9	3.3	3.1	0.6	2.1	2.2	1.5
Whole Library	{ Vols.	30.2	43.9	3.6	2.2	2.4	0.9	3.3	5.0	0.6	2.5	2.6	9.7
	{ Days	23.2	50.2	4.7	2.4	2.4	0.7	4.2	2.9	0.9	3.0	3.0	12.8

It will be seen that the new method of stating circulation reduces the percentage in the juvenile and periodical classes and raises it in history, literature, philosophy, and science. Thus it puts these latter classes in a much better and, as it seems to the writer, in a much fairer light. Thus, counting by volumes, the circulation of books of history in the whole library is about one-third less than that of periodicals; counting by days' use it is nearly two-thirds greater.

By volumes, the circulation of literature is about 10 per cent. that of juvenile fiction; by days, it is nearly 20 per cent. — a doubling in proportionate importance.

It is evident that only a small part of the facts set forth in these tables can be alluded to in the compass of this article. They will bear study, and they are commended to the attention of all those who are interested in the subject.

LIBRARIES AND THE LIBRARY PROBLEM IN "GREATER NEW YORK."*

By R. R. BOWKER.

OF the 16 American cities which in 1896 claim a quarter of a million population, the two which may make up "Greater New York" have been relatively most behindhand in their public library systems. Boston, seventh in population (494,000), but first in library progress, has spent \$2,368,000 for its public library, gives it over \$1,700,000 yearly, and from its 600,000 v. circulates by help of nine branches and 16 delivery stations nearly 2,000,000 v. among over 100,000 users; alongside is the Athenæum, with \$500,000 endowment and \$25,000 other income, nearly 200,000 v. and 50,000 circulation. Chicago, second, claiming 1,750,000 population, appropriates over \$125,000 yearly, and from its 200,000 v. circulates, with 38 branch agencies, over 1,000,000 v. among 50,000 users; alongside is the Newberry, with \$3,000,000 endowment, using its 125,000 v. for reference readers, and will be the Crerar, with about \$2,500,000 endowment — truly a noble showing! Philadelphia (1,350,000 population) has at last a free public library system, for which it appropriates \$115,000, and which from 73,000 v. circulates through six local libraries over 600,000 v. among 36,000 users — adding this to its veteran Library Company, with an endowment of \$433,000, 175,000 v., and 47,000 circulation, and its Mercantile Library, with \$27,000 income, 176,000 v., and 77,000 circulation. St. Louis (600,000 population) gives its public library over \$100,000, and from 100,000 v. circulates, with three branches, 330,000 v. among 24,000 users; alongside is the prosperous Mercantile Library, with \$60,000 income, 90,000 v., and 100,000 v. circulation among 3800 users. Baltimore (540,000) has available for the Enoch Pratt free public library \$50,000 income, and with 5 branches circulates from 162,000 v. 550,000 v. among 32,000 card-holders. San Francisco (360,000), gives \$40,000 yearly to its free library, which from 80,000 v. circulates 135,000 v.; alongside are the Mercantile Library with 70,000 v. having 40,000 v. circulation among 1300 subscribers, and the great Sutro collection, with its 200,000 v., not yet fully available. Cincinnati (365,000) gives its public library \$68,000

and from its 211,000 v. circulates 318,000 v. among 23,000 users; alongside is the Mercantile Library, with 60,000 v. and 50,000 circulation. Cleveland (345,000) has nearly \$50,000 for its public library, which from its 80,000 v. circulates, with one branch, 350,000 v.; alongside is the Case Library, with \$300,000 endowment and 30,000 v.

It is strange that the metropolis itself and its sister city should be laggards in library progress and close instead of lead the procession. Whether or not the proposed consolidation takes place, the library problem in the respective cities will not be greatly altered, because the separation of population will always be such and the population in each so great that separate library systems will probably be both advantageous and economical — especially with the development between these cities and amongst the great libraries throughout the country of the exchange system, of which we have seen but the beginning.

A free public library system in a great city must aim to provide a main reference library, central for students and readers generally; a main circulating library, central both for readers and in relation to the means of communication with branch libraries; and such branches, conveniently placed throughout the city, containing the chief reference-books, and circulating libraries of fair size, to be supplemented by exchange arrangements with the main library. Such a system in its location of buildings as well as in its selection of books should take into consideration other local libraries, whether chiefly reference libraries belonging perhaps to learned societies, or subscription libraries, or endowed circulating libraries, already free or partially free. It goes without saying that the main reference and the main circulating library will naturally find place together — the circulating department usually occupying the ground floor or front of a library building and the reference department the upper or rear portion, both with convenient access to the main stack-room. For library purposes the practical centre of a great city is neither the geographical centre nor the centre of population, but rather a point conveniently located in relation to the means of transit, as well as in the general neighborhood of homes, institutions of learning, etc., rather than in the

* Partly as read before N. Y. Library Club, March meeting, reprinted here because this metropolitan question is so wide as to be of national interest. The figures, though the latest available, are not uniformly those of last year.

business district. These problems take entirely different aspects in New York and Brooklyn, owing in great part to the lay of the land and to the facilities for transit.

In New York the population moves chiefly in north and south parallel lines, represented at the centre and west side by Broadway, along the backbone of the island, which the west side elevated system closely parallels, and on the east side, by Park Row, the Bowery, and Third avenue, occupied by the main east side elevated road. These two lines of travel, diverging at City Hall Park, have points of relation at Eighth st. (Astor place), 14th st. (Union square), 23d st. (Madison square), and 42d st. (Bryant Park and the Grand Central Depot), each of these streets being a thoroughfare with cross-town transit lines. North of this the city is separated by the line of Central Park, in which is the geographical centre, and is not united again till Harlem is reached; a large part of the people at the north come to the lower part of the city, but many people in the lower part of the city never go beyond Central Park. The natural centre of a great library system would seem, therefore, between these two lines, at one of these streets, not above 59th st., and the 42d st. site is the ideal site.

New York, claiming now 1,900,000 population, counts 40 libraries of some importance, aggregating a million and a half of volumes, among the hundred and more of the library census. Besides the 260,000 v. of the Astor and 86,000 v. of the Lenox, soon to be united on the new foundation, it has superb law, medical, theological, and other special libraries, the great scholars' library of Columbia University, of 205,000 v. free for reference use, including 13,000 v. of the Avery Architectural library, spending \$60,000 and adding 20,000 v. yearly; the Mercantile, with \$26,000 income, circulating from 246,000 v. over 176,000 v. yearly among 5100 subscribers; the Society library of over 90,000 v., the Historical of over 75,000 v., and the Y. M. C. A. of about 50,000 v. There are also at least a score of free libraries, including branches, reckoning the veteran Mechanics and Tradesmen's, near Union Square, spending \$25,000 in circulating from its 107,000 v. 254,000 v. among 13,000 users; the six libraries in Bond st., 2d ave., 13th st., 20th st., 42d st., and 125th st., of the youthful and growing Free Circulating Library Association, spending \$43,000 (\$23,000 from the city) in circulating from its 81,000 v. over 650,000 v. among 25,000 card-holders; the Aguilar library in East Broadway and its

59th st. branch, spending \$14,000 (partly city money) in circulating from its 25,840 v. over 250,000 v. among 4665 users; the Cooper Union, with over 31,000 v. for reference use; the Maimonides, with over 33,000 v.; the Webster at the East Side House; the Washington Heights, those of the College and University Settlements, and still others. What New York has needed has been an organizing centre for all these.

The trustees of the New York Public Library will have at their disposal an endowment and property of practically \$5,500,000. The Tilden funds in their hands will be about \$2,200,000; the Astor report shows funds amounting to \$800,000, and the Lenox Library funds of \$462,000—in addition to which the value of the Astor and Lenox sites, buildings, and books may be roughly estimated at \$2,000,000. This represents an income of approximately \$150,000 from invested funds, not counting sites, buildings, and books—aside from what might come from the city under the state law, or by direct grant, or from private sources. With such foundations of endowment, with such an executive as Dr. Billings at its head, with an awakened public spirit to support him, New York ought to take its place as the metropolitan centre for libraries as well as for other features of the national life.

The trustees may decide to waive the advantages of a central position and utilize the commanding though less accessible site of the Lenox Library, which has available for extension the full block crowning Lenox Hill and facing Central Park at 5th ave., 70th and 71st sts., including 34 city lots, and under the Lenox bequests inalienable from library purposes. If the larger and perhaps wiser decision is reached, the noble Lenox building, conveniently near the Museum of Art, is already a treasury of art works and rare books and can easily and properly be made the art division and show-room, as it were, of the public library system, corresponding to what is known as the King's Library in the British Museum. The Astor Library, not far from Eighth st. and Broadway, if not sold, will afford an admirable storehouse for certain classes of publications which are always a great perplexity in a central library. This building might well become the depository of bound volumes of newspapers and periodicals, of patent reports and government publications, and of books of historic value rather than of present usefulness. For this purpose the Astor Library would afford facilities enjoyed by no other library in the world.

A chief function of the new library will be to co-ordinate and supplement, rather than to combine or supersede, the many existing libraries. That is, it should not seek to establish branches in neighborhoods of which these libraries are the centre, and it should be able to make such arrangements as would strengthen these libraries, so far as it can wisely be done, by extending to their readers its own facilities. Its plans for the purchase of books could not be much modified by the influence of the Mercantile Library, but they would naturally be influenced by Columbia College Library, where, for instance, the existence of the Avery Architectural Library makes it less necessary for the new library to extend its purchases in that particular direction. Moreover, if, with the consolidation and rearrangement of the existing treasures of the Astor and Lenox libraries it should prove that there were two copies of a book on architecture of which the Avery Library had none, it would be the part of wisdom to make such exchanges or sales as would give both parts of the city and both sets of readers the advantage of the book. The card catalog of the central library might usefully include reference cards to books not on its own shelves, but found elsewhere in New York libraries. This principle of differentiation and co-ordination is one which has not been sufficiently worked out as yet in our library system, and it is not too much to hope that so good an executive as Dr. Billings will set a useful example therein.

The Brooklyn topography is peculiar. The street and transit system of the main portion of Brooklyn is in the shape of a fan, of which the handle (Fulton st.) extends from Fulton ferry past the bridge entrance to the City Hall triangle, at which point and from upper Fulton st., the sticks diverge on either side. There are great sections, closely inhabited, which are independently reached from New York: on one side the Eastern District or Williamsburgh, reached by the Grand st. ferry and to be reached by the new bridge; and on the other side South and West Brooklyn, reached from the South ferries, New York. Both these divisions, however, are also reached by elevated and surface roads from the city hall. The geographical centre of Brooklyn is not far from Flatbush church, but the City Hall presents the focal point of population and transit, and here also are the Packer Institute, the Polytechnic Institute, the Historical Society, the Art Building, and the Academy of Music, as well as the Brooklyn Library, which is but half a block

from the city hall park, on almost the ideal site for the great central public library of the future.

Brooklyn, with 1,250,000 population, among its score or more of libraries, has several of live importance. The veteran is the old Apprentices' library, founded 75 years ago, now among the 14,000 v. of the Brooklyn Institute, unused since the burning of its building in 1890 even by its 5000 members. The Brooklyn Library, well endowed, with realty of over \$250,000, owning 100 feet frontage and two lots in the rear, spending \$21,000 yearly, circulates from its 127,000 v. about 92,000 v. among 2700 members, using no branches except six druggists' agencies, through which 5000 v. go out. The noble Historical library, close by, keeps its 56,000 v. for the reference use of its 1029 members; and the Y. M. C. A. (14,500 v.), Packer and Polytechnic Institutes, not far off, confine their libraries to immediate constituencies. The Union for Christian Work, back from the City Hall, spends \$7000 (of which \$5000 is city money) in circulating from 33,000 v. over 167,000 v. among 5000 active card-holders. On "the hill," a mile or more northeast, the Pratt Institute, livingly endowed, does its magnificent free library work, the best in the two cities, with its "Long Island" and "Astral" branches, circulating from 57,000 v. over 250,000 v. among 15,000 card-holders. There is a fossilized "Public School Library" of 30,000 v., hidden in the "Eastern District," made utterly useless by the Williamsburg members of the Board of Education, to whom it is entrusted; and there are small but live libraries in the outlying Flatbush and Bay Ridge districts.

Brooklyn obtained in 1892 the passage of an act providing for a public library and authorizing the city to issue any part of \$600,000 bonds for its foundation; but the indebtedness was so close to the debt limit that nothing has ever been done under the act. Moreover, the city is now issuing bonds for the first portions of the new building of the Brooklyn Institute, which, rightly enough, prevents further immediate expenditure for like purposes. Recently a Public Library Association has been organized by some ladies, apparently not to promote public sentiment in favor of a free library system, as was supposed, but to be itself the free public library, and a bill has been introduced into the present legislature permitting \$100,000 appropriation. Pratt Institute, with its fine new library building, has practically taken the place of a free public library for its part of Brooklyn. The Brooklyn Institute cherishes ambitions of including library work on a large scale among its

other large plans. Thus Brooklyn is in danger of suffering from a plethora of library enterprises, which may result in the lack of a great central free library and in a lack of co-operation among the library factors.

It is here, of all places, that the principle of library co-ordination should be applied. The Long Island Historical Society has a superb collection in its special field, and will naturally develop along the lines of history and biography; the Pratt Institute Library, at the centre of a noble and most comprehensive series of technical schools, would naturally make its specialty books of applied science, on industries, and the like; the Brooklyn Institute, in its grand new building, which is planned to be the finest museum building in America, when, after the lapse of years, its quadrangle is completed, will contain museums of science and art which naturally suggest a system of specialized or seminar libraries, each answering to one of the 25 departments of the institute, and for which libraries ample provision will be made in the several museums and in the fine library-room which will crown the main entrance to the building. Meantime, the Brooklyn Library, already at the proper site for a library, would seem to be the natural germ of the free public library system of Brooklyn, provided its directors utilize the great opportunity before them. Brooklyn will have in the greater city across the bridge the benefit of the enormous collections on the Tilden, Astor, and Lenox foundations, of Columbia College, and of the other great libraries; but it will also need a library system of its own, co-ordinated with that in New York itself. A central municipal library in the neighborhood of the City Hall, leaving to the Pratt Library its great field among its students and on "the hill," to the Brooklyn Institute its part of the work, and to the Historical Society the collection of historical literature—arranging with each for the use of its treasures by those of the public who have real reason to make such use, and in proper relation with the branch libraries, the germs of which are found here and there throughout the city, should make Brooklyn noteworthy for a good library system, as for many other good things.

Prophecy is a thankless and treacherous profession, and the library development of both cities may be on quite other lines than those here indicated. But in both cities it is of first importance that the library problem should be treated in a large way, with abundant foresight, if they are to have the best results for the future.

THE PUBLIC DOCUMENT SYSTEM: FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

THE code for the regulation of the Government Printing Office, approved Jan. 12, 1895, under which Mr. F. A. Crandall was appointed Superintendent of Documents, and considerable progress made, still left much to be done in organizing the publishing of these documents. To these desiderata Superintendent Crandall has been giving careful attention, and he has prepared the draft of a bill "to reduce the cost, increase the value, and simplify the methods of publication of public documents."

This bill provides that only documents which emanate directly from Congress or are furnished in response to its call, shall be numbered and printed as Congressional documents—such publications as department reports, periodicals and series publications, like the census report, being specifically excluded. A standard size, octavo, shall be adopted for all public documents unless necessity to the contrary shall be shown to the public printer; a standard binding in cotton or linen cloth of the first grade shall replace sheep, with lettering or embossing in gold leaf of the best quality, "Dutch metal" or other cheap imitation being specifically excluded, and a standard series of distinctive colors shall be provided which shall not be changed.

The standard colors shall be, for Senate documents, dark brown; Senate reports, light brown; House documents, dark drab; House reports, light drab. For department and other documents: State, scarlet; Treasury, dark blue; War, black; Navy, dark green; Justice, dark brown; Post-office, brown; Interior, maroon; Agricultural, light brown; Labor, Smithsonian, etc., not connected with one of the executive departments, in such other color as the office and the Public Printer may agree upon.

Of all documents not bearing a Congressional number, but printed for the use of Congress, the usual number shall be 1100 copies, and in addition 500 copies shall be furnished to the Superintendent of Documents for designated depositories, and 15 copies for the Senate library, 15 for the House library, and 52 for the Congressional Library—including two copies for its own use and 50 for foreign exchanges.

On the backs or sides shall be the simplest possible lettering—at the top of back indicating the subject matter of the volume; in the middle indicating the year, number in the series and special number of the volume; at the bottom the department or office of issue. In the case of the Congressional numbered series, the lettering at top shall be House document, etc., in the middle, the number or numbers of the documents contained, and name or abbreviation of any document including one-third or more of the volume; at the bottom the number of the issuing Congress. When there is no document making one-third the volume, the word miscellaneous shall be placed on the middle of the backing. Single documents containing 250 pages or more shall be separately bound.

Senate documents and House documents shall be numbered consecutively through a Congress in the manner now followed with bills, resolutions and reports. The word "volume" shall be used in preference to "part," "appendix," or "supplement," to describe a separate book, and the word "series" or "set" in preference to the word "volume" to describe a collection of books.

Title-pages shall be furnished by the author or compilers, not by the Public Printer.

The special edition of the President's message with annual reports, known as "Message and documents," shall not be issued, and the Abridgment shall not be dated 1894-5, but shall bear the one date of the fiscal year.

The color, lettering, etc., of the binding, and the phraseology, typography, etc., of the title-page, of every public document shall be the same on and in all copies of such documents, and there shall be but one edition of any public document, except reprints, and in the case of a reprint the fact that it is a reprint and the date of such reprint shall be stated on the title-page. But members of Congress or heads of departments shall not be precluded from having copies specially bound for their use. Separate publications may be made of complete papers, which are parts of actual reports, but varying editions shall have amended title-pages and shall be held to make a new book.

In explanation of the proposed bill, Mr. Crandall has prepared a valuable memorandum on "The public and the public documents" which is now in press, discussing the matter from the bibliographical, mechanical, economical, and educational points of view. He emphasizes the importance of this matter to the libraries, and states specifically that unless he has the countenance and support of the library interests he shall not attempt to proceed in the matter.

Mr. Crandall is convinced that the numerous and erratic complications and inconsistencies, "simply a muddle, are unnecessary and curable," and he finds the remedy in the simple clue: "Take the annual reports out of the Congressional reserve."

He emphasizes the following desiderata:

"1. That the library shall be supplied from the earliest edition of every document that can be made available for that purpose.

"2. That every document in its bound form shall appear under only one title, in one binding, one color, and one size.

"3. That for improvement of appearance and of durability, and to save half the cost of production, the reserve volumes of the public documents should be bound in cloth instead of sheepskin.

"4. That in securing these necessary results existing arrangements and methods should be disturbed as little as possible."

A numerical plan is perfectly adapted, he points out, to "handling Congressional reports and documents proper, but when applied to ethnology, astronomy, . . . Indians, census,"

etc., etc., produces "a species of wooden uniformity among discordant subjects, which to the eye and mind of the librarian is the most horrible jumbling together of contradictions and impossibilities."

The "usual number," now 1682, includes 600 as "up number," which go to the Capitol for the immediate use of Congress, and 1082 as reserve. The reserve was formerly printed at the same time as the "up number," and then stored in sheets to be bound in sheepskin at convenience, with the frequent result that signatures would be missing and that the book could not be bound until they were reprinted. Enough money is said to have been wasted in printing missing signatures to pay for a new building for the printing office. More recently the "up number" has been printed first, and the reserve was made a separate and later printing. The new bill (Jan. 12, 1895) provides that the usual number must all be printed at one time, and that in binding it preference shall be given to the copies intended for libraries. This has not produced the desired result. The reserve copies are all bound in sheepskin "for the famous Congressional set, of which so many unpleasant and so few pleasant things are said." The sheep bindings alone cost more than paper, printing, and cloth binding together, "and librarians are almost unanimous in preferring a really good cloth binding."

A reserve number is needed for the Congressional documents proper, because their number, size, and classification cannot be known until the session has closed, but the reserve system should not be made to include, as it does, "a large number of the most important volumes published by the government," which have been written and printed before Congress meets, "and should not be delayed for months or years." As an example of this delay, "of 186 volumes issued by the 53d Congress, 143 were made up of reports and serial publications which might have reached the people through the libraries from one to three years earlier than they can possibly do as reserve sheep-bound volumes." There were also over 20 reports not large enough to make volumes jumbled in volumes of Congressional documents proper. The number above stated does not include 31 volumes of reports proper, the total reserve for that Congress including 217 volumes, two-thirds of which should have been kept out of the reserve.

Mr. Crandall's plan is to supply the depository libraries with the first editions of these works "instead of creating for their injury a worse edition," for which they must wait years. Besides the saving of time, the saving of labor and expense on the more than 10,000 volumes furnished the depository libraries yearly will be very large.

Though 20 volumes of the 11th census have appeared in cloth, only 10 have appeared in sheep-bound reserve, from which only the depository libraries are supplied. The report of the Controller of the Currency for 1892, a document of the 52d Congress, was not sent to the depository libraries until February, 1896. "It is a highly exceptional thing to receive a

reserve volume less than one year old; this is not the fault of the printing office, but of the system." Some of the reserve work is, in fact, never done, and the public records are left incomplete. To pull the forms of a complete record off the press and store the plates for re-printing and to bind in different styles of binding are both wasteful; and by the reserve system more is paid for poor result than it would cost to produce good results.

Mr. Crandall points out that the belief that the Government Printing Office is extraordinarily dilatory in printing and binding government documents is not true, and the office is not now nearly so far in arrears with the reserve number as formerly.

"A public document three years old is worth preserving as a record, as the works of Josephus and Ben Franklin are, but if received when first printed it would also have a present up-to-date interest of just the kind that every present up-to-date librarian likes to get into his or her library." Under a better system it would be cared for, not perfunctorily and with a sense of duty, but with the live interest that a live librarian would feel.

Another harm of the system is the waste by duplication. "The sheep-bound set does not satisfy any progressive library; it must have the Smithsonian and like reports, the census volumes, etc., in the cloth sets, which admit of proper library classification, and the costly sheep editions thus become surplusage." If the original cloth editions were supplied to libraries in the beginning all this wasteful and vexatious duplication would disappear.

"Next to getting the books while still of the present age, the librarian is interested in getting them in intelligible form." He may now get the same documents labelled "Message and documents," "House executive documents," "Report of the secretary of the interior," and "U. S. geological survey," and he may have a complete series of certain bureau publications, but in varying combinations of these four editions, bound in leather and three different colors of cloth with different lettering—"a very tatterdemalion among library collections." The object in binding and lettering books is in great part to give them an identity exclusively their own. The proposed bill provides that there shall be but "one name for one book," and that the names, binding, and lettering shall be continuously uniform.

Important as is outward uniformity, even more so is uniformity in title-pages. The common and most reprehensible practice of publishing the same document with several different title-pages destroys the identity of the book for cataloging. "Private publishing houses find no need for disguising their books under multi-form title-pages and covers."

The set of 12 or 15 cloth-bound volumes yearly, called "Message and documents," is useless as a record, since it does not contain the financial reports, most important of all, and duplicates other publications confusingly: "thus to increase the confusion which makes the public documents a bewilderment to the average citi-

zen is an abomination." This "offence to libraries" it is proposed to abolish.

The single reform of binding reserve copies in cloth instead of sheep would make an estimated saving of nearly \$100,000 a year—giving also a good thing at less cost than a poor one.

Mr. Crandall, in conclusion, reiterates his belief that this is largely a librarians' question. "It is to librarians the country must look for the preservation of public documents in which the official history of the country is preserved. The number of private collectors who systematically preserve the whole body of public documents I assume to be exceedingly small." Under these circumstances librarians have a right to ask that the complicated and almost incomprehensible plan or tangle of several plans should be simplified in order to lighten their labors and to make possible satisfactory results. Librarians should, therefore, join in urging Congress to make possible the task which the public libraries have undertaken of preserving the nation's documentary records and making them useful to the people of our own day and of the future.

The subject has already come before the present Congress in H. Res. 22, offered by Mr. Russell, of Connecticut, December 12, 1895, for which was substituted H. Res. 126, offered by Mr. Perkins from the Committee on Printing, February 24, 1896, with House Report no. 496 on "a uniform system of numbering public documents." The substitute bill is largely the result of a hearing given by the committee to Dr. J. G. Ames, of the document room of the Interior Department, and it provides a schedule for classifying the documents of the several departments; making titles plain, uniform, and permanent; providing for their binding in half morocco of distinctive colors, to be determined by the Joint Committee on Printing; giving the Senate and House documents a consecutive number through an entire Congress, like the reports; and providing that Senate and House reports shall be paged consecutively at the top of the page, with the pagination of the specific report at the bottom of the page. The report accompanying this bill is a good statement of the case, doubtless based upon Dr. Ames's own experience. The bill proposed by Mr. Crandall, however, is the more comprehensive of the two and includes many of the admirable features of which Dr. Ames has been for years the persistent champion. It seems probable that before the matter is acted upon by the House the two measures will be merged in a comprehensive bill as above outlined.

At the San Francisco conference of the A. L. A. (1891), a special report on public documents was adopted by the association, which is here reprinted for purposes of easy reference and comparison. It will be noted that many of the desiderata here set forth have been accomplished by the passage of the bill of January, 1895, and by the organization of Mr. Crandall's office, and it

is fairly matter of question whether Mr. Crandall's proposal to leave the annual reports, etc., out of a series altogether is not preferable to the plan suggested by the committee, especially in view of the easy classification of government documents which his plan would promote.

REPORT ON PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, A. L. A., 1891.

Your special committee on government publications submit that a satisfactory system of government issues should embrace the following conditions:

Public documents should be printed on durable paper, in permanent standard size, except where there is specific reason for variation, and in sufficient minimum number, under general provision of law, to supply the Executive and Congressional libraries, each Senator and Representative, each issuing department, bureau, or committee, with the necessary copies for record and office use, each public depository, and a moderate surplus for general use or public sale.

Additional copies to be printed only from department appropriations or by specific legislative provision. Public documents should not be understood to include office blanks, confidential instructions, or other routine papers not of public concern.

Each document, in addition to separate publications, should have its proper place in one series, and the binding up of one document in several shapes or series should as far as possible be avoided. Except where numerical or chronological arrangement is desirable, as in the case of bills and journals, the classification and bindings should be such that the issues of the same department or bureau should be together, and cognate subjects should be bound in the same or in adjacent volumes. Each volume in a series should have lettering showing its individual character.

These conditions might best be met by substituting for the present Senate and House executive and miscellaneous series one comprehensive series to be known as United States general or miscellaneous documents, to embrace department reports and all other documents not properly belonging in the several series specifically connected with the two Houses of Congress or not special sets of publications.

Each volume or set should have at its end an index to that volume or set only; there should be a separate annual index to all government publications of the year, whether by government subscription to individual enterprises or by public provision; and there should be ultimately a systematic and comprehensive subject-index to all governmental publications, but not until a plan has been matured after full consultation with the best bibliographical authorities inside and outside the government service.

Every government publication should be sent as soon as issued or bound to public depositories of the first class, which should include every state library and the leading library for public use in great centres of population. A select list to embrace the Statutes, President's Message,

Census volumes, Copyright lists, and other issues of universal interest, and such other issues as may be of special local interest should be sent promptly to public depositories of the second class, which should include such other libraries as can make good use of such documents—such libraries to be registered on application of the librarian or proper officer, stating the locality and character of the library, its present or prospective shelf-room, its facilities for reference use, the character and distribution of its readers, and the lines of documents serviceable to its constituency, such application to be endorsed by the proper Senator or Representative. All documents deposited to be subject to transfer or recall in case the library becomes dead or fails to provide adequate accommodation and facilities for their use.

The distribution should be through a central mailing office and bureau of distribution, except where, as in the case of serial issues which should be sent in first mail, time can be saved by mailing direct from the office of publication, such bureau to be a division of the Government Printing Office, or Library of Congress, or Department of the Interior. This bureau should receive all orders from Congressmen, the departments, etc., and should keep check-lists to prevent unintended duplication. This bureau should also be the general depository of all unissued documents.

PULPIT VS. LIBRARY AGAIN.

ON Sunday, November 17, the Rev. J. A. Milburn, pastor of one of the Presbyterian churches of Indianapolis, preached a vigorous sermon, in which he denounced the city library as a purveyor of meretricious literature, apparently basing his remarks on an address delivered some time previously before the Indianapolis Century Club by Mr. John Cleland. Mr. Cleland's paper dealt with "The ideal library," and was primarily intended to help the people in small towns in starting their libraries. He spoke especially of the danger a library ran in selecting too light fiction, and criticised the usual high percentage of fiction issued by public libraries. The particular statements on which Mr. Milburn's sermon was based were as follows:

"Into the free circulating library are apt to be dumped all manner of fish, flesh, fowl, and creeping things in the sacred name of literature. I do not mean that much that is positively vicious passes the censors, but much that is negative, trifling, transient, unnatural, weak, and weakening goes on the shelf and into our homes. The free library has come to be largely a supplement to the theatre, the circus, and the variety show. Perhaps 80 per cent. of the books taken from the library may be classed as fiction. Probably as large a per cent. of the borrowers never take anything else. Many will not read an old novel, however good, so long as they can obtain a new one, however bad or untried. Some read only to kill time, forgetting that killing time may be crippling eternity."

In his sermon Mr. Milburn attacked the city library as a distributor of "debasing, meretricious, immoral, pernicious, and destructive fiction."

The matter was promptly taken up by Miss Browning, the librarian, who at once despatched a letter to Mr. Milburn, asking for a list of the books he considered pernicious and requesting the source of his information. The local press also came at once to the rescue, and with editorial unanimity condemned the sermon and praised the library. The final result was that the clergyman withdrew his charges, explaining that he had not meant all he had said. Among the editorial utterances evoked, those of Mr. J. P. Dunn in the Indianapolis *Sentinel* were especially emphatic.

"As a matter of fact," he said, "the Indianapolis Library is one of the best selected libraries in the country, and one of the most carefully guarded. There are a few books in it that might be considered 'pernicious' to the young, but they are all specially listed and are not permitted to go out except on special permission. No one, who has not watched it from its little start, can appreciate its benefits to this community. . . . It is continually elevating the taste of the people, even in the line of pushing them on from 'fiction' to purer literature. In 1882 the percentage of fiction to total circulation was 59.4 per cent.; in 1883 it was 58.6; in 1886 it was 55.2; and last year, as we have seen, it had fallen to 51.8."

AN INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHICAL BUREAU.

In *Science-Gossip* (London) of Dec., 1895, is given an account of the establishment of an International Bibliographical Bureau. This was brought about by the unanimous vote of the third International Congress of Zoölogy, held at Leyden. The bureau is under the control of an international commission nominated by the congress. Prof. W. B. Scott is the commissioner from the United States. Dr. Herbert Haviland Field has the immediate direction of the bureau, and his address is Universitäts-str. 8, Zurich-Oberstrass, Switzerland.

The publication of the bureau will consist of an index and prompt card catalog, on L. B. standard size cards, of all zoölogical literature, whether in the form of books, serials, or scattered papers. The index is to be broken into sections, which are to be sold at smaller prices, with a reduction to annual subscribers. The book edition may be ordered through a bookseller of the publisher, Wilh. Englemann, Leipzig, but the card catalog can be obtained only from the bureau. In regard to the card catalog, the bureau offers to search through the thousand or more journals containing zoölogical notes, to pick out such articles as relate to a particular group or question, and to inform its subscribers at once whenever any new observation appears. The bureau desires authors, publishing bodies, and societies to send their work to Dr. Field, so that it may be brought promptly to the knowledge of those interested.

THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.

GEN. THOMAS L. CASEY, in charge of the construction of the new library of Congress, has submitted to the Senate his report of the work accomplished during 1895. Within the year the details of finishing work have had special attention, and are well on toward completion. The floors of three book-stacks have been completed, and more than half of the 60,000 shelves required for them are now in place, while the special fixed iron shelving required for the two-storied study alcoves surrounding the public reading-room is being installed. In the spring of 1895 the general coloring and decoration of the building was begun. It is now well advanced, the main rotunda being practically finished, save for the alcoves and mural paintings in the crowns of the dome and lantern. In August and September, 1895, the tunnel, authorized in the appropriation act of March 2, 1895, was constructed between the library building and the Capitol and the necessary arrangements made in the room assigned for it in the Capitol. This tunnel is six feet in height by four feet wide, and is ready to receive the book-carrying apparatus, pneumatic messenger tube, and telephone wires for communication between the library and the cloak-rooms of the Senate and House and the tunnel-terminal room in the Capitol.

During the present year, the operations "will be those of completion, in the nature of interior finish and apparatus, those of construction being already essentially ended. By the close of the year the building will probably be quite completed, so that it may be turned over for occupation within the time estimated for its construction." Gen. Casey includes a financial statement of funds, showing that there has already been appropriated for the erection of the building the sum of \$5,695,567.94, of which \$5,197,521.27 has been expended, \$860,082.93 being the expenditures of 1895. This leaves a balance of \$498,046.67 as yet unexpended. An additional sum of \$500,000 will, it is estimated, be needed to complete the building.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE season of 1896 of the Department of Library Economy of Amherst Summer School, conducted by W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College Library, will open July 6, 1896, for the usual session of five weeks. There are no special requirements for admission to this course, but applicants will be expected to have had a reasonably thorough education, and to show some special aptitude for work among books. The course is especially adapted to provide persons already engaged in library work, but who have had no special training, with the means of improving their work and bringing it into accord with the well-recognized standards, qualifying them at the same time for promotion to better positions.

Instruction will be given daily (except Saturday) from 10 to 12 a.m., in the form of practical

lectures by Mr. Fletcher, in which the whole field of library work will be gone over. The class will be furnished with necessary blanks, etc., and required to go through with each process as it is described. The class will be conducted as one of beginners, no previous knowledge of library work being expected. At the same time care will be taken to make the work at each stage so thorough as to be of use to those who are already possessed of the mere rudiments. Cutter's "Rules for cataloguing" is used as a text-book, and intending members of the class will be supplied with copies in advance on application to Mr. Fletcher. The class will also meet afternoons from two to four o'clock, for practice in various forms of library work, according to the needs of the different pupils.

The fee for this course is placed at \$12. Special arrangements will be made to accommodate any pupils who may wish to do more or other work than that of the regular class, and additional tuition will be given at moderate rates. Further information may be obtained by addressing Wm. I. Fletcher, Amherst, Mass.

State Library Associations.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE fifth annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held on Feb. 22 in Waterbury, where it was welcomed to the new Silas Bronson Library by Mr. O'Neill, president of the board of agents. Mr. W. K. Stetson, of New Haven, president of the association, replied.

After the business of the meeting was over, Miss Cornelia W. Chapell, of New London, read a report of a meeting of the library associations of the New England states in Boston on New Year's Day. Miss Mary A. Richardson repeated by request a paper written for that meeting, reviewing the five years' work of the association since it was founded in New Haven in February, 1891. Its 16 meetings have been held in New Haven, Hartford, Bridgeport, Waterbury, Norwich. Winsted, New London, Norfolk, Saybrook, New Britain, Groton, and Falls Village, and it has discussed a wide range of subjects, from cleaning shelves to genealogical collections, and listened to addresses from speakers of more than local fame on subjects less purely technical. It has always taken deep interest in the connection of public libraries and public schools, and its first president, Mr. Van Name, of the library of Yale University, was the first to suggest the formation of the Connecticut Public Library committee. Since this committee was appointed in 1893, 25 towns have voted to maintain free libraries. Miss Richardson said: "Trustees, librarians, and assistants have all taken their part, and in all our meetings discussion has been free. All have been able to get some new ideas to put in practice, when they return to their various libraries."

A paper on reference lists for small libraries

was expected from W. J. James, of the library of Wesleyan University, but he was kept at home by serious illness in his family, and Dr. Anderson, of Waterbury, read instead the preface to his new history of that city.

The subject of reference lists was discussed informally and the morning session adjourned in time for an inspection of the building, where librarians found much to praise in the well-lighted rooms and ample provision for the needs of classes, students, and history collections.

After dinner, to which the association was invited by the Silas Bronson Library, the officers of last year were unanimously re-elected. They are: President, Willis K. Stetson, New Haven Public Library; Vice-presidents, A. S. Beardsley, Plymouth Library, Professor D. N. Camp, New Britain, C. Amelia Clark, Acton Library, Saybrook, Jennie A. Ford, Dunham Library, Willimantic, Jonathan Trumbull, Otis Library, Norwich; Secretary, Mary A. Richardson, New London Public Library; Assistant secretary, Angeline Scott, South Norwalk Public Library; Treasurer, Mrs. Frances W. Robinson, Otis Library, Norwich.

Miss A. C. Twining, of Waterbury, then read a paper on the aims and objects of that library, referring to its purchases of books for skilled mechanics, its connection with the public schools and provision for the needs of clubs, students of genealogy, and the foreign population of the city.

Every member of the association was requested to answer at roll-call with an account of some library experience or useful device. Bristol reported a delivery station at Forestville, Watertown a remarkably good reference library and an improved method of keeping labels on the backs of books, New Britain an index to periodicals kept up to date, New London the circulation of studies from the *Art Interchange* and *Art Amateur*, Winsted free access to shelves, Naugatuck close connection between library and schools, Bridgeport the publication of book-lists in all the local papers, Waterbury a list of historical fiction in preparation, Plymouth as little machinery as possible, and New Haven access to shelves and boxes to keep large books from falling over.

Mrs. Frances W. Robinson, of the Otis Library, Norwich, read an account of the transition of that library from a subscription to a free one, and ended with a few requests for books received there, such as "something sad and hero-like" or "a book with just 202 pages."

A committee was appointed to draw up resolutions on reprinting the A. L. A. Catalog, consisting of Mr. H. F. Bassett, Mrs. Agnes Hills, and Miss Anna J. Rockwell. The following resolution reported by them was unanimously adopted by the association:

"Resolved, That the Connecticut Library Association respectfully petition the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide for the reprinting of the A. L. A. Catalog."

After a vote of thanks to H. F. Bassett, the librarian of the Silas Bronson Library, his assistants and the board of agents, the meeting adjourned. There were about 40 persons present.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

THE Massachusetts Library Club has issued a useful and attractive "Handbook" for 1896, in which are set forth the essential facts of the club's history. It includes lists of the officers for 1895-96; the officers since the foundation of the club in 1890; the constitution; a record of meetings, discussions, and addresses, with reference to the LIBRARY JOURNAL reports; a list of members; and a list of the libraries represented in the club, arranged by towns. The summary of membership shows that the club now numbers 302 members, of whom 125 are librarians and 105 assistants; of the total 272 are from Massachusetts and 22 from Rhode Island; 123 libraries and 102 towns are represented in the membership. The "Handbook" is a 32-page pamphlet, printed on heavy rough-edged paper, with wide margined pages.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

THE 17th regular meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held at the Drexel Institute, Monday evening, January 13, 1896, at 8.15 o'clock, President John Thomson in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, and the president announced that arrangements were being made by the executive committee to settle the date of the May meeting, due announcement of which would be made.

The evening's exhibition was devoted to "Fac-similes of renowned books." President Thomson fittingly introduced the subject by calling attention to the use of fine and accurate fac-similes. By the use of these the student and scholar was able to obtain as good results in research in his native city as he would by travelling from place to place where the originals were preserved, mentioning as a case in point the splendid Variorum Shakespeare edited and published in Philadelphia by Dr. Furness from fac-similes of the original quartos and folios. In addition to these advantages may be added the saving of wear and tear on the originals. Mr. Thomson then exhibited the more interesting of the volumes, making a running comment on each.

The exhibition included nearly 100 fac-similes, among the most important the Codex Alexandrinus, of which two or three copies are owned in Philadelphia. The copy loaned by Clarence H. Clark to this exhibition is beautifully bound, and special interest in the work lies in the remarkable Arabic notes made by some early owner, supposed to have been a Melchite patriarch, in 1308, of which a Latin translation has been added by Dr. Richard Bentley. It is to the effect that some persons record the book to have been written by the hand of the martyr Thekla. This is an impossible story, but came from a tradition prevalent in the Church of Alexandria. The real Thekla was probably an Egyptian woman who lived shortly after the Council of Nice. The book has been paged by Patrick Young, librarian to Charles I. It is written in double columns throughout, the other two codices known as the Vatican and Sinaiticus, also shown, being in three and four columns respectively.

The fac-simile of the Vienna Genesis was of special interest, the original being the oldest consecutively illustrated Bible in the world. It has just been given to the public by the Imperial Library of Austria, to which the manuscript belongs. Other treasures among the fac-similes were the prayer-books of Queen Anne of Brittany and Maximilian I.; Caxton's "Game and playe of the chesse," and his "Dictes and sayings of philosophers," and a large volume of the national manuscript of Ireland published to illustrate the changes in language and writing from the time of the Conquest. The curious Mexican ceremonies of marriage are illustrated in Lord Kingsborough's celebrated Antiquities, of which a splendid colored copy was in the exhibition.

Among the fac-similes of famous first editions in the exhibition were the first quarto of Hamlet, the first folio of Shakespeare, "Paradise lost," "The pilgrim's progress from this world to that which is to come," of which only five copies of the original edition published in 1678 have survived to our day, the "Vicar of Wakefield," published by Francis Newbery, of Paternoster Row, in March, 1766; and "Rasselas," a fac-simile of the 18th edition, published in 1759, of which a curious feature is the absence of the name of Dr. Johnson from the title-page.

Izaak Walton had an earlier rival—a woman—in Juliana Berners, who wrote "A treatyse on fysshynge with an angle," designated the first book on fishing printed in England; a fac-simile appeared in the exhibition. There were also a fac-simile of the "Domesday book;" a little, flat red-bound book—"Alice's adventures underground," being a fac-simile of Lewis Carroll's original manuscript book afterwards developed into "Alice's adventures in Wonderland"; "The history of Goody Two Shoes," a quaint little volume, which it would take a connoisseur to tell from the original book commonly attributed to Goldsmith; and "L'imitation de Jésus Christ," a fac-simile of a mediæval illuminated manuscript.

The books were lent by Clarence H. Clark, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Drexel Institute, John Thomson, and William Wilson, the exhibition being arranged by Mr. Thomson, president of the Library Club, with the assistance of the secretary, Clarence S. Kates. The fac-similes were placed on public exhibition at the Free Library on January 14, and were on view two weeks.

C. S. KATES, Secretary.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Illinois State Library Association has issued the following circular, setting forth the objects of the State Bureau of [library] Information, which has been established as part of the association, in accordance with the resolutions passed at the January meeting of the association:

"The Illinois State Library Association, organized at Springfield, Illinois, on January 23, 1896, authorized, as one of the means of promoting library interests throughout the state, the creation of a Bureau of Information.

"This Bureau is to be conducted under the direction of the Armour Institute of Technology,

Miss Katharine L. Sharp, director, Chicago, Ill., the object being to furnish a medium through which all who are interested in the details of library organization and administration, and who desire information upon the best methods in library economy and management, may direct their inquiries with full confidence that they will receive the results of experience based upon the most modern library methods.

"Librarians, members of library boards, or other persons in any city, town, village, or community who may desire to create or develop greater library interest in any portion of the state, are urged to make free and frequent use of this Bureau of Information.

"Answers to inquiries will be in line with modern library progress, and in accordance with the suggestions and recommendations of the American Library Association so far as these have been published. In other cases, the experience of members of this association will be called for, particularly those well qualified to advise in lines to which they may have given special attention. Where differences of opinion appear, as to the value of details or methods under inquiry, the endeavor will be to reach a consensus of opinion, and thus secure the practical experience of many.

"It is believed that the formation of this Bureau will provide a practical means for the interchange of opinions based upon experience, and its benefits are herewith extended to all in the state. No one should feel any hesitancy in applying for information or seeking to secure benefit therefrom.

"KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director.*
"TH. NELSON, *President.*"

IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Iowa Library Association met in connection with the convention of the Iowa State Teachers' Association held January 1 and 2, 1896. There was a smaller attendance than usual of librarians from the state outside of Des Moines, but the interest was sustained throughout the meeting and good work was done in the interest of libraries throughout the state.

Owing to the absence of those who had been expected to conduct that part of the program, the review of the course of study prepared by Miss Esther Crawford, of the Albany library school, was not as successful as had been hoped. Mrs. Bertha Ridgeway, of the Iowa State University Library, gave an interesting talk on "Accession and acquisition." Miss Abbie R. Knapp spoke of the intricacies of classification. The president in his opening address outlined the importance of the work of the society, and papers on varied phases of the work were read by President Seerly, of the Iowa State Normal School, A. W. Rich, of the Iowa State Normal School, Mary O. Buchanan, of the Fort Dodge High School, Miss Whitcomb, of the State Library, and J. M. Brainard, of Boone.

Resolutions were passed favoring the erection of a memorial historical building at Des Moines and the creation of a state library commission.

The following officers were elected for the

ensuing year: President, J. W. Rich, librarian of the State University Library; vice-president, W. H. Johnston, of Fort Dodge; secretary, Miss Ella W. McLoney, of the Des Moines Library.—*Iowa Library column, in Fort Dodge (Ia.) Capitol.*

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE second annual meeting of the Nebraska Library Association was held in the Lincoln (Neb.) Public Library Building on Jan. 1, 1896, during the session of the State Teachers' Association in Lincoln. Miss Mary Jones, of the State University, president of the association, called the meeting to order and delivered the opening address. A paper on "The relation of the public library to the public school" was read by Miss Margaret O'Brien, assistant librarian of the Omaha Public Library, who urged teachers to co-operate with librarians toward the formation of a state library commission for Iowa. This was followed by a general discussion on library topics, and especially on the best means of guiding pupils' reading.

In the business meeting at the close of the session the following officers were elected: President, D. A. Campbell, librarian Nebraska State Library, Lincoln; 1st vice-president, Miss Margaret O'Brien, assistant librarian Omaha Public Library; 2d vice-president, Prof. William Jilison, Doane College, Crete; Secretary, Miss Mary Jones, State University, Lincoln; Treasurer, Miss Carrie C. Dennis, librarian Lincoln Public Library.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A REGULARLY notified meeting of the Colorado Library Association was held in the directors' room of the Chamber of Commerce at 8 p.m., Jan. 29, 1896. After the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meetings a report was submitted by J. Warner Mills in behalf of a committee appointed at the annual meeting to consider the matter of the establishment in Colorado of a library commission on lines similar to those of Massachusetts and other states. The committee was continued with instructions to report more fully at some subsequent meeting.

Mr. W. H. Smiley, principal of the High School District No. 1, Denver, then read a paper on the question: "How far is it desirable to encourage outside reading by high schools during their course of study?" In the course of his remarks Mr. Smiley read quite a number of lists of books which had lately been read by members of the high school. The discussion of the subject was participated in by several teachers of different schools in the city.

JOHN PARSONS, *Secretary.*

AT the annual meeting of the association, held Dec. 27, 1895, the following officers were elected for 1896: President, C. R. Dudley, Denver City Library; Vice-presidents, J. W. Chapman, Pueblo; Mr. Warner, of the Y. M. C. A. Library, Denver; T. F. Woodworth, Trinidad; Treasurer, A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder; Secretary, John Parsons, Denver Public Library; Executive committee, officers residing in Denver.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

A REGULAR meeting of the Library Association of Central California was held February 14, 1896, at the Mercantile Library, President Rowell in the chair.

The president read a paper on "Standards of success," in which he described the ideal librarian as follows:

"He is a person of stern integrity, whose word is equal to another man's bond. He has high impulse, energy, earnestness, and a confidence in himself based on training and on the experience of others. He doesn't dream of his bank account; he is unselfishly devoted to his work. While not a genius, his enthusiasm takes the place of great talent. He sometimes errs, and feels badly; for with zeal always goes a thin skin, but takes comfort from the thought that great progress is seldom gained without occasional retrogression.

"Our librarian is a positive, aggressive person. Neat, orderly, and punctual, he expects similar qualities in his assistants. He heeds petty details, but, Wellington-like, is not overmastered by them. Of administrative ability, he plans improvements in the service, and is always 'short on' red tape. He is loyal to his co-workers, alleviates their toils, takes personal interest in their welfare, and they in turn are loyal to him.

"Mercantile ability of high order enables him to thoroughly know the chief mental needs of his *clientèle* and the cheapest and quickest means of catering to such wants. He advertises his library and its noteworthy accessions and keeps, not himself, but the library constantly in public view. To this end he scorns not the use of puffs in the newspapers, and when public attention is directed to his stock and people visit him, they always find what they are in search of, and depart amply informed, and return again as often as occasion arises.

"But besides being possessed of all such qualities as best behead the shrewd merchant and salesman, our ideal librarian, paradoxical as it may appear, is a scholar. He does not know everything; he isn't a perambulating cyclopædia; but he has received a broad, thorough education, and has acquired mental power to tackle problems from which less bold spirits shrink. His learning may not be of the academic variety; he may not pursue a specialty to uttermost bounds, nor bestride an ardent hobby, but his cultivated, sympathetic mind responds to every demand. An imprint reads 'Avigno, 1764'—and straightway comes a vision of cowed monks, of the quaint mediæval costumes of southern France, of the warring 14th century papacy, and of Petrarch's Laura buried in the church of the Cordeliers. He is a book-lover and delights in brilliant proofs, in lustrous, wide margins and dainty bindings, though his private cupboard contains never a one."

The matter of co-operation and specialization came up for discussion, but the reports were so discouraging that an extension of three months was given for perfecting a more definite plan.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*,

Library Clubs.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

THE executive committee of the New York Library Club decided to postpone the February meeting from the first to the third Thursday in the month in order to hold the meeting at the Grolier Club. The committee also planned to have a program which should be in harmony with the æsthetic surroundings. On reaching the charming home of book-lovers, the whole club-house was found thrown open for inspection, and the attractions of the reading-room, taperij, an old Dutch kitchen, and the library were so great that it was with difficulty that the audience was gathered in the club-room downstairs for the meeting.

Miss Louise Both-Hendriksen, a member of the London Ex-Libris Society, read a paper on book-plates, or ex-libris, as she preferred to call the subject.

Before the introduction of the printed or engraved plate the mark of ownership was the coat of arms of the owner embossed on the cover. This super-libris continued in use in France and Italy, the home of beautiful bindings, long after the introduction of the book-plate proper. The earliest ex-libris come from Germany, the oldest one bearing the date 1450; but they were not generally adopted for a century, the earliest engraved English plate being dated 1574. The custom spread rapidly from that time. At first all plates were armorial, the earliest bearing no names, as the heraldic device was a sufficient clue to ownership. Armorial plates may be classified into: 1, early armorial; 2, Georgian; 3, modern armorial. Early armorial are subdivided into: 1, Tudoresque; 2, Carolian; 3, Restoration. The Georgian are subdivided into: 1, Jacobean; 2, Chippendale or Rococo; 3, Festoon. Of modern plates the name is legion, armorial, pictorial, allegorical, legendary, etc. The earliest American plates were made in England, later American designers execute them. Paul Revere was an engraver and designed many book-plates.

The next speaker was Mr. Theodore L. De Vinne, of the De Vinne Press, who addressed the club on the subject of "Fine printing." Mr. De Vinne said that formerly *fine* printing meant printing that was difficult, striking, eccentric, but that happily that idea was now largely outgrown. Printing is a secondary art; the printer originates nothing, and he should not lead, but follow, the object being to explain clearly the thought of the author. To do that the printer should use the best type, the best paper, the best ink, but should always remember that his work is secondary and should not attempt to intrude his own personality. The earliest printing was the best, but it soon began to decline, as printers departed from their own line and began to embellish their work with fancy lettering, coloring, fine lines, etc. The attempt to make lines sharp and clear as in copper-plate engraving had a detrimental effect on printing. No one did more to degrade printing than Thomas Bewick by demonstrating the possibility of

making fine lines on wood. Type-founders tried to make a sharp air-line in type. Then lithography came in and printers tried to imitate that. The next step in the decline of printing was dry-paper printing—the discovery that highly polished or calendered paper, such as is necessary for photographic effects, could be printed on dry. Notwithstanding that the effect was to produce print that was gray and fuzzy, printers gave up wetting the paper. There has been a steady tendency to make printing stray out of its natural channel; printing has been sacrificed to wood-cuts, the thought of the authors subordinated to illustration. Printing is not on the whole so good to-day as 60 years ago. William Morris was the first to show what could be done by reverting to old methods. To bring printing to its highest perfection it will be necessary to go for models back to the 15th century. Among the best printed modern books are the Oxford Bibles and prayer-books.

Mr. J. O. Wright, who is cataloging Mr. Robert Hoe's library, criticised the A. L. A. standard book sizes, saying that this departure from the old method of determining size by the fold would cause bibliographers of the future endless trouble. Mr. R. R. Bowker replied that the library world felt the need of a notation that should indicate the size of the book for purposes of shelving. Mr. Baker, of Columbia College, said that that reason was a sufficient one for adopting a standard rule of size, but that the mistake the A. L. A. had made was in not wholly discarding the old nomenclature.

The following persons were elected members of the club: Ernst Lemcke, James H. Foote, Miss Madeline Nathan and Miss Ellen M. O'Meara, of the Aguilar Library; Mrs. J. A. Dunham and Miss E. D. Jaques, of the Newark Free Library; and Miss Marie F. Wait.

A vote of thanks to the Grolier Club for its hospitality was unanimously passed.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE, *Secretary*.

Reviews.

HASSE, Adelaide R. List of publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, from 1841 to June 30, 1895, inclusive. Washington, Gov. Printing Office, 1896. 76 p. O.

An excellent example has been set for other departments of the Government by the Department of Agriculture, in the present volume, which is the work of Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, now of the Document office, while assistant librarian at the Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library, and is transmitted by Mr. W. P. Cutter, librarian of the department, to the Secretary. Miss Hasse apologizes for omissions and errors—which apology will be necessary for years to come in every endeavor to deal with government publications; but she has done nevertheless a comprehensive and valuable piece of work. The arrangement is by bureaus or other divisions, under these by series, as annual reports, special reports, bulletins, etc., and under these chronologically in the case of actual series and alphabet-

ically by names of authors or by first word of title (even if the title is Proceedings or Report) when there is no chronological basis. A careful note for each division gives a statement of the history and scope of the respective bureaus and the name of the chief or reporting officer is given, when it can be done, in this note or in the specific entry. Miss Hasse has adopted a notation somewhat on the lines indicated in the recent review of the "Check-list of Public Documents." She uses Ag as the general classification symbol of the agricultural department, and adopts a partly decimal system for the several divisions and the series under the divisions, leaving the numbers beyond 500 for future extension. This is partly but not wholly satisfactory; evidently it will be some time before we can have a comprehensive method of notation for government documents, desirable as it is. Throughout the entries full titles and pagination are given, and where the titles are not descriptive or need explanation there are notes. The publication has very sensibly been interleaved, so that the entries may be continued by the happy possessor of this list, and in thanking Secretary Morton and Librarian Cutter for the example their Department has set, we feel justified in expressing the desire of all librarians who have to deal with public documents that this example shall be followed throughout all departments that issue publications. R. R. B.

MAIRE, Albert. Manuel pratique du bibliothécaire: Bibliothèques publiques, bibliothèques universitaires, bibliothèques privées; suivi: 1°, d'un lexique des termes des livres; 2°, des lois, décrets, etc., concernant les bibliothèques universitaires, de 1837 à 1894. Paris, Picard, 1896. O. 11+591 p. plan, il. tabl.

In taking up this latest and largest book on library economy, with its promising title of "Practical manual," one would naturally expect to find much new, valuable, and interesting matter, as well as the latest and best thought and methods on the various subjects treated in its several chapters. But a careful examination disappoints such expectation, and leaves the feeling that the net gain to the expert librarian from its perusal will not be great. The author is either ignorant or else has purposely ignored the high standards of library work obtaining in the best administered libraries in this country. It is not idle boasting to say that our leading university and public libraries, in excellence and practical value of work done in them, lead the world. Certainly if the volume before us shows France at her best, her librarians are unfamiliar with or have not profited by our progress during the last quarter century.

The only American books referred to are Allibone, and Flechter's (*sic*) "Public libraries in America." No mention is made of any English or American rules for cataloging. Cutter's, the A. L. A., and the Columbia College rules are as yet undiscovered X rays to M. Maire; and he has still to learn of the existence of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

But while the book contains not only no new matter, but not even the recent information in the matters of library construction, equipment, classification, and cataloging, there are many points of interest and value to be gained from it. Its historical introduction, though not so complete as the author aimed to make it, is very interesting, while the references to sources, given in the footnotes, are of great value. An interesting chapter on "*Des examens professionnels*" dismisses American libraries summarily as "*comprenant beaucoup plus d'ouvrages de vulgarisation et de lecture courante que de collections savantes—exception faite pour les bibliothèques d'universités et de collèges.*"

The 60 pages "*Des systèmes bibliographiques*" are of value historically, and for the variety of schemes of classification given, the Decimal being included. The "*Lexique des termes du livre*" has interest and value as such, but seems out of place in such a manual. An appendix of 150 p. is filled with official documents concerning French libraries from 1789 to 1894, rules regarding the university libraries of France, and blank forms.

The few pages devoted to catalogs of incunabula are instructive and valuable, and from other parts of the chapter "*Des catalogues*" some hints may be gained. As a practical manual for advanced work here, its contents are obsolete.

C: A. N.

POTTHAST, August. *Bibliotheca historica medii ævi: wegweiser durch die geschichtswerke des europäischen mittelalters bis 1500; vollständiges inhaltsverzeichnis zu "Acta Sanctorum," Boll; Bouquet; Migne; Monum. Germ. hist.; Muratori; Rerum Britann. scriptores, etc.; anhang: Quellenkunde für die geschichte der europäischen staaten während des mittelalters.* 2. verb. u. verm. Aufl. 1. Bd. Berlin, W. Weber, 1896. O. 147+800 p.

The title so fully explains the scope and aim of this great work that little needs to be added, except to call the attention of librarians to its great value as a complete key to the history of the Middle Ages. Its first part contains "*Sammel- und Miscellanwerke der Geschichtschreiber des Mittelalters*," subdivided into A: "*Sammlungen allgemeiner inhalts für Europa*"; B: "*Sammlungen für einzelne länder und einzelne historische perioden*"; C: "*In alphabetischer ordnung mit genauerer titelangabe.*" These furnish the fullest material for ordering or for checking off what a library may have or need. The second part is a complete index by authors and titles to all these collections, and does for the reader what the first does for the librarian. All libraries that make even the smallest pretence to having a collection of historical works will need this general index to the period it covers. A lengthy notice would be required to levy a tithe upon its richness. It must suffice to say that there are few libraries, used at all by students, where this work will not be found practically useful. The first volume closes with the letter M.

C: A. N.

RAINES, C. W. A bibliography of Texas: being a descriptive list of books, pamphlets, and documents relating to Texas in print and manuscript since 1536, including a complete collation of the laws; with an introductory essay on the materials of early Texan history. Austin, pub. for the author by the Gammel Book Co., 1896. 16 + 268 p. il. Q. pap., \$4; mor., \$5.

The title-page gives a fair summary of the contents of this volume, which is a first attempt to furnish a clue to the publications relating to Texas or written by Texans, and which covers books, pamphlets, official documents and reports existing, so far as known, since 1536, the year of the *relacion* of De Vaca, the first Spaniard to penetrate the region that is now Texas. In his preliminary "Essay," Mr. Raines gives a short account of the early Spanish expeditions into Texas, and cites the various collections in which these records are preserved. The bibliography proper covers 226 pages, giving about six titles to the page. It is an author-list, with full titles, date and place of publication, and valuable and interesting descriptive notes—the latter being one of the most useful features of the work. Paging, size, illustrations, maps, etc., are noted, but name of publisher and price are omitted—the latter it would probably be impossible to give in most cases. Naturally Spanish records and *relaciones* furnish much of the material, as do government and society reports, surveys, debates, etc., but the array of general books—biography, history, travel, and fiction—is surprisingly full. The abundant annotations are generally descriptive, though in some cases a brief criticism of the manner or matter of the book is included. Authors' names are given with varying fulness, civil or military titles are generally appended, and place of birth and dates of birth and death are noted in parentheses when practicable. The latter data are, perhaps, not always infallible, as in the case of Horace Greeley, who, we note, flourished during the brief period of 1811–12; but in the case of many writers it is a most useful detail.

There are three appendixes: 1 (p. 227–246), covering conventions and constitutions relating to Texas, with a collation of the laws of the republic and state, arranged chronologically, and a list of law-books and court reports; 2 (p. 246–252), manuscripts, maps, and newspapers, a curiously jumbled list, with entries neither alphabetic, chronological, or by subject; and 3 (p. 253–255), "Texas Veterans and Daughters of the Republic," being a short historical sketch of these two patriotic organizations. The index, which concludes the work, is of decidedly primitive construction. No page references are given, and many of the entries simply refer to the name of the subject in some of the other divisions of the work. Such entries as "Newspapers. (See that title.)," "Addenda. (See that title, after the Z's.)," are remarkable instances of how not to index, while three ref-

erences to the Alamo—"Alamo," "Alamo monument," "Alamo siege"—show a lavishness of space and type not at all commensurate with the information vouchsafed. The form adopted in the index—as "Anahuac campaign. F. W. Johnson, N. D. Labadie"—involves searching through the book for the desired author entry, which may be in the main division of the work or in one of the appendixes. It is to be regretted that a compact index, giving full subject references, is not a feature of the volume, as it is also unfortunate that no complete list of the publications of the state is included, either as an appendix or as a part of the main division.

In spite of the limitations here noted, the work is an interesting one, and brings to light a mass of useful and little-known material. Mr. Raines, in his four years' service as state librarian, was enabled to gather much information as to rare documents and historical manuscripts which he now puts at the service of others; and his bibliography is a useful contribution to the literature of his own state and to the general materials of American history. H. E. H.

Library Economy and History.

LOCAL.

Ann Arbor, Mich. Univ. of Michigan L. (Rpt.—year ending Oct., '95.) Added, general l. 4987 v., 517 pm., 151 maps; total 79,342 v., 15,759 pm., 1151 maps. Total recorded use 138,821. Statistics for the law l. and medical l. show that additions to the former amounted to 340, with a total of 11,805; accessions to the latter were 1041 v., 387 pm., giving a total of 6815 v., 1482 pm. The dental l. contains 745 v.

The statistics of use show an increase of 3001 v., and it is thought that the unrecorded use is increasing much more rapidly. Two test records of the characters of readers were made, which showed that 95.79% were university students, 2.27% high-school students, and 1.94% citizens. "There is an increased use of the library by women. Their attendance has increased in three years from 33½% to 41%. This increase has been especially apparent in the evening."

Baltimore. Mayor Hooper, in a recent message to the city council, has recommended that the Public School Library be abolished and that its books be given to the Enoch Pratt Free Library. The school library contains about 8000 v. Before the mayor called attention to it very few people knew that such a library was in existence, and fewer still could have found it. The library is about a three-minutes walk from the Enoch Pratt, and it circulates between 6000 and 7000 v. a year.

Baltimore. Enoch Pratt F. L. (10th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 14,265; total 162,754. Issued 587,799 (reference-books 38,521), of which 75% were fiction. Books missing 163; lost and paid for 63. New registration 6017; no. card-holders 32,654. Expenses \$49,351.60.

Of the year's circulation 268,809 v. were issued

through the five branch libraries, and of the 149,038 periodicals used during the year 58,339 were read at the branches. During most of the year a registration-book was kept for a month or two at each branch in turn, but in December a modification of the system of numbering made it possible to keep a registration-book permanently at each branch, a change that has proved quite successful.

In April was begun the publication of a quarterly bulletin of accessions.

This report marks the end of the first decade of the library's existence. "During that time we have circulated among the people of the city nearly 5,000,000 books, about 75,000 persons have become borrowers of books, and we now own nearly 175,000 v."

Several hundred volumes of bound musical scores have been added to the library and have proved very popular. There are also excellent collections in the Latin, Greek, German, Swedish, Dano-Norwegian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and Bohemian languages; a number of books for the blind in "New York point" were added during the year.

Boston P. L. On Feb. 11 Col. T. W. Higginson offered to give to the library his collection of books relating to the history of women, numbering about 1000 v., and known as the "Galatea collection." The offer was promptly accepted, and the books will be kept together in a special alcove in the library where it is thought they may prove the nucleus of a valuable "special library" on the subject. The collection has been in process of formation by Col. Higginson since 1846, and while containing many books written for and about women, it is specially strong in the literature relating to woman's social status, privileges, and restrictions. In his letter offering the collection Col. Higginson says: "The great changes that have gone on within recorded history in the social, industrial, and educational position of woman render this an important theme for special study, and a proper basis for a separate department in every large library. It is such a department that I desire, with the aid of others, to establish, and I am very confident that it will find special students to whom it will be of value. I am not aware that such a department has before been created in any public library, though one or two college libraries in our western states have been mentioned as beginning on similar collections. Several large collections of books written by women have been made in Europe. But these contained the works of women only—not works about women—and the same was the case with the remarkable library of woman's writings in the Woman's Building at Chicago, most of whose contents are still kept together, I believe, in that city. None of these, therefore, were general collections, like that at which I aim."

On Washington's Birthday the library was opened to the public from 2 to 4 p.m., this being the first time in its history on which it was not closed on a holiday. On that day an interesting exhibit of relics relating to Washington and the American Revolution was exhibited in

the patent-room on the second floor. It was estimated that over 6000 persons visited the library during the hours of opening, and so successful was the experiment that it will probably result in keeping the library open on all holidays except Christmas.

Brooklyn, N. Y. A Brooklyn Public Library Association was formed in February, for the purpose of establishing an adequate free public library in Brooklyn. The association, which is incorporated under the presidency of Mrs. Charles O. H. Craigie, has held several "parlor meetings," for the discussion of the best means of establishing a library, and it is believed that by thus agitating the question it will be possible to obtain public contributions for the purpose. It is intended to extend the advisory board of the association to include 50 prominent and influential citizens.

On Feb. 28 Assemblyman E. C. Brennan introduced into the legislature a bill authorizing an appropriation of \$100,000 "for the founding of a free public library in the city of Brooklyn when a like sum of money shall have been subscribed by citizens or other persons for that purpose."

Burlington, Vt. *Fletcher F. L.* (22d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1895.) Added 663; total 23,375. Issued, home use 48,762 (fict. 67 %); no record of ref. use. New registration 752. Receipts \$3726.30; expenses \$2166.42.

About 600 v. were issued for school use.

Buffalo (N. Y.) L. At the annual meeting of the library association, held on Feb. 24, both the retiring and incoming presidents in their addresses dwelt on the need of a free library in Buffalo. They recognized how largely the usefulness of the library was hampered by the restrictions of membership, and advocated some means by which it might be opened freely to the public. The incoming president, Mr. Guilford Smith, also especially emphasized the need of closer relations with the schools, and suggested that the Buffalo Library become the depository of travelling school libraries which should be sent from school to school for circulation among the pupils.

Cambridge (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '95.) Added 4090; total 49,448. Issued, home use 137,702 (fict. 45 %); ref. use 10,033. No. card-holders 10,064.

"With the opening of the present school year a pass-book was substituted for the 10 cards formerly allowed each teacher in the schools to which deliveries are made. The form of the pass-book was regarded as an experiment likely to suggest further improvements after trial. The new method has worked well even under the severe test imposed by a large increase in the school work." Duplicates for school use are much needed.

"The children's reading-room is used as much as could be desired, and a far larger one would often fail to provide sufficient accommodations. The establishment of this room has contributed greatly to the comfort of the frequenters of the

main reading-room, as well as to the benefit of the children themselves. Many of the children are as yet unable to read, and for the amusement of such we have provided scrap-books of pictures. The plates from some of our worn-out books are utilized for this purpose. The usage which all the books in this room receive is of course severe, and some have been stolen. But the loss may well be regarded as trifling in comparison with the good results which may fairly be expected as time goes on, from the welcome which the library extends to children."

Cincinnati (O.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending July 1, '95.) Added 6073; total 211,081. Issued, home use 318,423 (fict. 79.4 %); lib. use 225,392; periodicals and newspapers 593,945; total use of library 1,137,760. No. card-holders 23,668. Receipts \$68,598.48; expenses \$57,077.52.

The fiction percentage includes fiction in French, German, and Spanish, as well as in English. Mr. Whelpley gives some space to a review of the character of the books issued, and makes a plea for good fiction, as one of the best aids to education and culture; the library has a large collection of valuable illustrated books, and the titles of the chief accessions in this class are given. The need, within a short time, of a new library building is hinted at. This need has been vigorously set forth by Mr. Whelpley, in a letter recently addressed to Senator Plummer, who is a member of the library board, in which he proposes that the legislature authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$500,000 for a new library building. He shows that the cost, including improvements and repairs, of the present unsatisfactory building was about \$333,000. For the sum asked a building equal to the library buildings of most of the large cities could be had.

A number of the books of the public library have recently been destroyed by a set of literary vandals and vigorous efforts have been made to put a stop to the practice, but under the existing conditions it has been impossible to detect the guilty parties or to stop this growing evil. "I am of the opinion," said Mr. Whelpley, "that most of this vandalism to our books is done right here in the main reading-room of the library. If I can find out any of these parties, be they rich or poor, I will not spare them, but they will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. The destroying of the public library books is not done by the ignorant, but by those who are well educated—those who should know better and appreciate more fully the value of books. The mutilation has been worse during the past two weeks than at any previous time in the history of the library. I am determined to set a watch on these people, and some examples will be made. Two persons stole a copy of *The Enquirer* from our file. Fortunately they were caught, and are now serving a term in the workhouse."

Cleveland, O. Case L. An interesting collection of book-plates was held at the Case Library during the week beginning Feb. 29; it was composed chiefly of specimens loaned for the purpose by local collectors.

Dayton (O.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, 1895.) Added 1609; total 35,325. Issued, home use 106,000 (fict. 55.6%; juv. 28.4%); no record of ref. use. Receipts \$14,976.24; expenses \$10,830.50.

A new registration was begun Sept. 1, 1894, and at the close of the year cards had been issued to 5939 borrowers.

Delaware, O. Ohio Wesleyan Univ. L. On Feb. 15 a student of the university, Robert L. Miller, was arrested for stealing a 10-volume edition of Gardner's "History of England" from the university a week previously. He at first protested innocence, but when confronted with the evidence broke down and confessed the theft of the history and a dictionary. Six volumes of the history were found hidden temporarily in a pile of lumber in the basement of the university, but the other four volumes and the dictionary had been burned by Miller to escape detection.

DEWEY, Melvil. New York State Library. (In *Harper's Weekly*, Feb. 22, '96, p. 178-181.) il. por.

A short history of the library from its establishment in 1818 to the present time, describing the library school, the travelling libraries, and the various branches of its comprehensive work. Illustrated with a portrait of Mr. Dewey and 11 fine views of the interior of the library.

East Hartford (Ct.) Town L. A meeting of the trustees of the new town library was held on Feb. 22 in the rooms of the Raymond Library to determine "what arrangements can be made by which the town library and Raymond Library can be managed for the advantage of each and for the benefit of the general public." A sub-committee was appointed to arrange for the co-operation of the two libraries. Under the provisions of the will of Albert C. Raymond, who established the Raymond Library, a membership fee of 50 cents must be paid for the withdrawal of books, but it is now thought possible to limit the Raymond Library to reference-books and to turn over to the town library for a reasonable consideration all circulating books. There is no difficulty in the way of making the reading-room free to all, and probably it can be arranged so that any reference-books may be freely consulted if they are not taken from the building. The idea is to make the popular books free and all reference-books accessible to the public. The care of the building and the library and the distribution of books will be under the charge of the staff of the Raymond Library Company, without cost to the town.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L. "A marked change in taste has been manifested by the users of the library during the past few years. The demand for fiction appears to be rapidly decreasing, while the demand for scientific works and magazines is proportionately increasing. A few years ago 85 per cent. of the books drawn were fiction, while now the fiction percentage has fallen to 73, and fully 30 per cent. of this is composed of chronic fiction readers. Since January 1 two

great international questions seem to have changed the bent of readers' minds, for during that period the demand for books on political economy and sociology has increased nearly 20 per cent.

"About \$400 has been appropriated for the purchase of books 'on the useful arts; when they have all been received and cataloged, the library expects to issue a small, classed catalog of these with those on similar subjects already in the library. This is done with the view to making the public library particularly useful to the artisans and mechanics.

"There has been a marked increase lately in the attendance at the reference-room, which is used principally by men. This is especially noticeable on Sundays and holidays. There are 40,000 volumes now in the library.

Jacksonville (Fla.) L. Assoc. At the January meeting L. S. Metcalf, manager of the *Florida Citizen*, was made a life member in consideration of assistance rendered the association. A series of entertainments for the benefit of the library will be given.

Lancaster, Pa. Franklin and Marshall College. The town of Lancaster has no public library and no place or organization to preserve the many valuable records of local history that are rapidly passing away. The college has enlisted various local agencies in the work of collecting all such records, the same to be preserved in the college library for the free use of all who may wish to use them. This action of the college virtually makes the college library a free reference library for the community.

Langhorne (Pa.) L. A. Added 237; total 2647; issued 2812. There are 31 periodicals and newspapers on file.

Lynn (Mass.) P. L. At the regular session of the board of aldermen on Feb. 4 an order was passed authorizing the mayor to petition the legislature for permission to borrow \$40,000 for the purchase of a site for a new library building.

Maryland. Early in January Senator Oswald Tilghman introduced in the Maryland State Senate a bill permitting cities or towns to establish and maintain free public libraries, and to levy a library tax for that purpose of not more than five cents on a hundred dollars' valuation. This is the bill prepared by the committee appointed by the State Teachers' Association. Dr. Bernard C. Steiner is the chairman of the committee.

Senator J. Wirt Randall has also introduced a library bill. This bill calls for a state appropriation of \$100 each for libraries in every county of the state. The plan is somewhat similar to that of the old school library law of New York.

Michigan City, Ind. The citizens' committee has secured \$15,000, the amount required to be raised to secure the \$10,000 subscription of Hon. John H. Baker, and a public library building will be erected at an estimated cost of \$25,000.

Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L. A special committee, composed of the municipal members of the board of trustees, has been appointed to consider the advisability of purchasing standard works in the Polish language for the library. The measure was advocated before the committee by a delegation of Polish citizens, who stated that the Polish and Polish-American population of Milwaukee was over 40,000. The committee authorized the selection of about 200 volumes of standard Polish books, and the appropriation of \$225 for that purpose.

Montclair (N. J.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 30, '95.) Added 1096; total 4785. Issued, home use 30,312 (fict. 84.3%); users of reading-room 4738; new registration 579; total registration 1881.

Nebraska City (Neb.) L. A. A citizen whose name has not been made public has offered to erect a library building, at a cost of not less than \$7500, provided the city will furnish a site. A public subscription for the purchase of the ground has been started, and it is thought the necessary sum will be raised without difficulty. The local Ladies' Library Association has agreed to turn its library over to the city as a nucleus for the new library.

New Hampshire, Board of L. Commissioners.

Free public libraries. Bulletin no. 1, Dec. 31, 1895. 42 p. O.

This is not a report of the work accomplished in New Hampshire by the commission, but a "library tract" intended to help small libraries by suggestions as to the purchase of books and methods of management. It contains a "list of books suggested for the consideration of library officials," classed, with information as to date, publisher, and price; books by New Hampshire authors, children's books, and books of interest to young people are designated. Lists of publishers, of library aids, and of desirable reading-room periodicals are appended; and the report by Miss L. E. Stearns on "Reading for the young," read at the Lake Placid (1894) Conference of the A. L. A., is reprinted in full. The New Hampshire library law of 1895 is also given in full.

New Jersey State L. (Rpt. — year ending Oct. 31, '95.) Added 2322; total 45,265.

The accessions of the year bring the library "beyond the 45,000 mark and maintain its reputation of being first-class both in law and miscellany." A number of books of general reference were added which "in connection with our full list of encyclopædias were found to be absolutely necessary to the needs of the hosts of pupils of the state and public schools that constantly crowd the library."

New York Mercantile L. A large and notable exhibit of posters was held at the library from Feb. 13-15. The collection, numbering nearly 1000 specimens, has been brought together by the librarian, Mr. W. T. Peoples, to form a permanent feature of the library's accessions. Among the artists whose work was shown in this field of decoration were: Puvis de Chavan-

nes, whose first poster, the "Centenaire de la lithographie," was published in Paris last November; Edouard Detaille, whose first design, a military figure, is entitled "Fanfan la Tulipe"; J. Bac, Mucha, Grasset, Lautrec, Guillaume, Steinlen, Meunier, Hardy, Beardsley, and of Americans, Bragdon, Penfield, Bradley, George Wharton Edwards, Carqueville, Rhead, and F. Fleming. It was at first intended that the exhibit should occupy but one day, Feb. 12, but it proved so popular that it was extended until Feb. 15; it attracted an attendance of over 2500 interested visitors.

New York P. L. A trustees' meeting was held at the Astor Library on Feb. 15, when it was decided to engage several additional catalogers to assist in the preliminary work of the library, and to issue, through the executive committee, a general circular explaining the scope and general character of the work thus far accomplished.

New York. Railroad Branch Y. M. C. A. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 30, '95.) Added 434; total 7331. Issued 12,337 (fict. 59%), as against 13,036 in 1894. "The only consolation that may be gained by this decrease is, that it was nearly all made in the loss of the reading of fiction."

During the year 5713 v. were delivered by train service to other associations in various towns and cities and to members at stations; for these books there were 724 readers. The total number of readers using the library was 1377.

New York. St. Agnes's L. St. Agnes's Chapel on Columbus avenue is probably the first church in New York to have a public library in connection with the parish. Its origin was some 500 books or so, given by different people for the use of the Sunday-school, but it rapidly assumed such proportions that in 1892 it was started as a parish library. In 1893 Miss Annie Gibson was appointed librarian, and in 1894 the library was opened to the public. The rooms in the church house on 91st street are attractively fitted up, and the library is doing a good missionary work in a quiet way among the poorer classes of the west side; it is also extensively used by the literary clubs in the neighborhood for reference and study. It now contains about 2400 v. The reading-room, which is largely used, is most attractive, with well-filled bookcases, arm-chairs, and tables strewn with the current periodicals.

Niagara Falls (N. Y.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 367; total 2750. Issued (nine months only), 12,501; lost 5. Borrowers 828.

Norfolk (Va.) P. L. (3d rpt.) Added 618; total not given. 448 v. were rebound at an expense of \$170. Issued 10,320 (fict. 8564); visitors 28,079. Receipts \$2160.32; expenses \$1778.50.

During the year two appropriations have been received from the city and the yearly sum of \$1500 is henceforth to be paid in two instal-

ments. There are now 197 subscribers, as against 88 in 1894, and in addition to these the city support has allowed the granting of free privileges to 137 school-children, 82 teachers, 13 ministers, and 18 editors, thus giving a total membership of 447 persons.

The library rooms have been renovated and new shelving installed, and the librarian has begun the compilation of a dictionary catalog.

"The Great Bridge Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution have deposited in our library a bookcase with a view to collecting colonial books and pamphlets and histories relating to the revolutionary period. Our library is to be the custodian of these books, which are open to reference by our visitors, but are not to be taken out of the library except by members of the Daughters of the Revolution. We have also been offered the custody of the medical library of this city, and are now trying to make arrangements within our means to find room for this valuable acquisition, which will bring to our library a class of educated and influential men who will assist us in building up our institution."

Philadelphia F. L. On Feb. 22 the library celebrated the completion of its first anniversary in its present quarters at 1217 Chestnut st. An informal public reception was held in the library rooms and addresses were delivered by Dr. William Pepper, president of the board of trustees, Mayor Warwick, Dr. J. S. Billings, superintendent-in-chief of the New York Public Library, Dr. Edward Brooks, Talcott Williams, and others. In the evening the trustees gave a dinner to invited guests at the Rittenhouse Club. The anniversary was also celebrated by the establishment of a "donation week," beginning Feb. 22. Such a "donation week" was inaugurated last year when the library removed to its present quarters, and it is intended to make this a permanent feature of the annual celebration. During the first two days of the "donation week" over \$1200 were received, in addition to generous gifts of books, and the net results of the week, in money and volumes, were most gratifying.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L. An appropriation of \$20,000 has been asked by the library committee to be devoted almost wholly to the purchase of scientific and technical books. A new electric-light plant has been put in the building at a cost of \$19,700. The report of the library commission shows a total expense of \$39,456.65 up to February, 1896, and the commission asks a municipal appropriation of \$79,054.59 for 1896. This is almost as much again as the appropriation (\$40,000) promised by the city for the library support.

Plainfield (N. J.) P. L. The only way in which the city can provide accommodations for the Babcock Scientific Library, to be purchased with the \$10,000 bequeathed by the late G. H. Babcock, is by securing an amendment to the act under which the library was organized, so as to enable the city to raise by tax the funds required to build an addition. An act providing

for such an amendment has been prepared and endorsed by the city council and presented to the legislature.

Port Huron (Mich.) P. L. The library commission have requested the common council to grant permission to lease the Universalist church for five years. The sum of \$1200 is to be invested in new books.

The Ladies' Library Association has just closed its 30th year and is in a very prosperous condition.

Providence (R. I.) Athenaeum. In article 18 of the regulations of the library it is provided that the librarian "shall also, in addition to the vacation, have time allowed, if he see fit, to attend the annual meeting of the American Library Association, this being considered to be in the interest and for the advantage of the institution." "This," says Mr. J. L. Harrison, the librarian, "is, so far as I know, the first time the A. L. A. has been so recognized in the constitution, by-laws, or regulations of any library."

Richmond, Ind. Morrison-Reeves L. An error made in computing the taxes for the year 1896 threatened recently to seriously affect the library appropriation. In arranging the 1896 tax-rate sheet in the auditor's office, by some oversight the six cents special library tax was omitted. This levy is made to maintain the library, and brings in an income of nearly \$7000. It was at first claimed that, as the error had been made on the official sheet and had been published, the additional six cents could not be placed against the taxpayers after the levy had been completed. The county attorney decided, however, that the auditor must correct all errors, according to the law, and therefore the six cents were added on and the library will receive its income.

Richmond, Va. Union Theol. Seminary L. Plans have been accepted for the Spence Library building, which is to house the library of Union Theological Seminary. The building, which is to be 100 x 50 feet, will be erected on the southwest corner of the grounds. On the first floor a 15-foot hall will give entrance to two large reading-rooms, while back of these will be the main library-room, octagonal in shape. The two-story stack will be of fire-proof construction, cut off from the rest of the building by a fire-proof wall. On the second floor will be a large auditorium and numerous study-rooms or alcoves.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. F. L. (2d rpt. — year ending May 1, 1895.) In this report, the main items of which have been already noted in the L. J., Mr. Crunden gives an interesting record of the various details of library administration. "As this report is meant ultimately for the information of the public," he has thought it well to present with some fullness the practical working of the library in its various departments. Beginning with the conditions and rules of use, he takes up severally the work of the registration department, the selection, purchase, and cataloging of books, binding, rebinding, issue, character of circulation, charging system, fines, etc., and presents, in this record of the work of the St.

Louis library, a fair summary of the administrative details of most large public libraries.

On Jan. 31 the library board purchased a fine site, 181 x 155, on 17th street and Lucas place, one of the most desirable parts of the city. This is the first step made toward securing a new and adequate library building, which is much needed. The present quarters, on the sixth and seventh floors of the Board of Education building, into which the library moved in 1893, when it was first made free to the public, are already proving inadequate, and Mr. Crunden estimates that within five years they will be badly overcrowded. The price of the new site was \$94,109.37.

San José (Cal.) P. L. At the February meeting of the trustees it was decided to abolish the requirement of a deposit on the part of borrowers, and to adopt instead the card guaranty system.

Seattle (Wash.) P. L. The library was removed on Feb. 11 from its present quarters in the Collins block to rooms in the Rialto block on Second avenue. The action is due solely to the necessity for cheaper quarters, as the new location is a less convenient one, but the removal will reduce the rent from \$200 to \$100 a month. The new rooms are on the second floor, and in addition to the main room, about 70 x 105, there is a ladies'-room, a children's department, a reference department, and a men's reading-room. An ordinance has been passed abolishing the 10-cent fee now charged for the issue of books.

Sparrow's Point (Md.) F. L. The library was opened to the public on the evening of Feb. 14. It was organized by the Citizens Library Committee and starts with about 800 v.; it is open for circulation from 7 to 9 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evening. The reading-room is open till 10 p.m. Charles Woodruff is librarian. Sparrow's Point is the home of the Maryland Steel Co., the extension of the Pa. Steel Co.; it is on the bay shore, 12 miles south of Baltimore.

Springfield (Ill.) P. L. Added 2451; total 27,973; issued, home use 72,157 (fict. 54 %), reading-room use 69,198. Total use made of books 141,355 v. Appropriation, \$3,400.

Washington (D. C.) F. L. The library, which was opened to the public on Jan. 6, issued during the month of January membership cards for 1402 persons. During the same time 705 v. were added, 128 by purchase, making the total number 3756 for circulation and 2000 for reference. An average of 113 v. per day are issued, and there is a steady increase in the circulation.

The bill providing for a municipal appropriation for the support of the library was submitted to the committee of the District of Columbia on Feb. 26, and referred to a sub-committee for consideration. It will probably be passed.

Waterville (Me.) L. A. The second meeting of the association was held on Feb. 20, when plans for the establishment of a library were more fully organized. Several hundred dollars

have already been contributed. A public mass-meeting in support of the project was held on the evening of Feb. 26 in the city hall.

Weymouth, Mass. Tufts L. (17th rpt. — year ending Dec. 30, '95.) Added 817; total 16,980. Issued, home use 64,771 (fict. 68 $\frac{5}{10}$ %), of which 32,235 v. were delivered through the five stations; no record of ref. use. New registration 354; total card-holders 7700. Receipts \$3568.47; expenses \$3484.78.

There is marked increase in reference use, and 2943 v. have been issued on teachers' cards. The two-book system has been in operation during the year, and is thought to have much reduced the issue of fiction, the present fiction per cent. being the lowest in the history of the library.

FOREIGN.

Aberdeen (Scotland) P. L. (11th rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, '95.) Added 2759; total 41,787. Issued, home use 221,925 (fict. 50.84 %); ref. use 18,872; reading-room 45,994. New registration 9318. Receipts and expenses £2790.10.4.

The collection of volumes on the open shelves in the reference-room has been largely increased and made more fully representative; they have been much and carefully used. New books for circulation are now placed on open shelves in the lending department for examination.

THOMAS, Llewelyn. Lisbon libraries. (*In Acadamy*, Feb. 1, 1896, p. 96.) 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ col.

The libraries of Lisbon — the *Arquivo da Torre do Tombo*, the *Academia Real das Sciencias*, and the *Bibliotheca Nacional* — and one near the city are described. The author gives some account of their great mss. and other treasures, "to a great extent unexplored." In the *Academy* of Feb. 8 Mr. Thomas describes a ms. of the "*Divina Commedia*" in the *Bibliotheca Nacional*.

Librarians.

BERRY, Silas H., librarian of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Y. M. C. A. Library, having during the several years of his administration brought that library into as high a state of efficiency as the resources at command permit, and seeing no prospects of enlarged development there, has announced that he is open for an engagement in some library field that offers scope for organization and energetic work.

BIRD, Miss Janet, a graduate of the Pratt Institute library training class of 1894, has accepted a position as librarian at Bisbee, Arizona.

BLOGG, Miss Harriet A., has been elected assistant librarian of the Woman's College, Baltimore, to enter upon her duties next September. Miss Blogg has been connected with the Enoch Pratt Free Library since January, 1888.

BURNITE, Miss Caroline, of the Pratt Institute library class of 1894, has resigned her position as cataloger at the Library of the Union for Christian Work, Brooklyn, to be-

come librarian of the Equitable Life Insurance Company, in New York, which is regarded as possessing one of the finest libraries in its special field in the country.

CRUNDEN, Frederick M., librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, has gone to California for a month's rest and recuperation after a recent illness.

FASSIG, Oliver L., librarian of the U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, has been given a year's leave of absence, and intends leaving Washington late in March for a year's study at Berlin University. Mr. Fassig has been an officer of the Washington Library Association since its organization, and he is succeeded as secretary and treasurer of the association by Mr. F. H. Parsons, of the U. S. Naval Observatory.

GUY, Miss Emma, has been elected state librarian of Kentucky, succeeding Mrs. M. B. R. Day, whose term of office will expire in June of this year.

HICKCOX, John H., has resigned his position as chief cataloger in the office of the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., and has been succeeded by Miss Edith E. Clarke, who was appointed cataloger in the department in 1895.

IDLE, Thomas, has resigned his position at the Lenox Library, N. Y., to take charge of the ordering department of Columbia College Library.

JACKSON, Miss Annie Browne, of North Adams, Mass., was recently elected a trustee of the public library for the long term, three years, and made chairman of the board. Miss Jackson had been a member of the book committee of the library for 10 years past, and was a student of the N. Y. State Library School during the years 1887-1888.

JOSEPHSON, Axel G. S., head cataloger at the Lenox Library, N. Y., has been appointed head cataloger of the Crerar Library, Chicago. He entered upon his new duties March 1.

PLUMMER, Miss Mary W., librarian of the Pratt Institute (Brooklyn) Free Library, has entered the field of authorship with a little volume of "Verses," published in a limited edition, from the De Vinne Press, New York, for Messrs. Paul Lemperly, F. A. Hilliard, and Frank Hopkins, of Cleveland and New York. Of the 15 poems that make up the little book several will be remembered as first appearing in the *Century* and other magazines, although a few have never heretofore been printed.

TOWNSEND, Miss Ada, has been appointed librarian of the Westchester (Pa.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Lizzie A. Thomas, resigned.

TROWBRIDGE, Miss Helen R., a graduate of the Pratt Institute library training class of 1895, has been appointed cataloger at the Lenox Library, New York. She is the first woman to obtain a position in the Lenox Library.

Cataloging and Classification.

AMHERST (*Mass.*) F. P. L. Catalogue. Amherst, 1896. 224 p. nar. D.

A title-a-line classed list, one column to the page. Classes 1 and 2, juvenile and fiction, are given first separately in title lists, and then in a joint author list; they cover 127 pages. In most of the other classes title entries only are given. Appended to history (class 4) is a short list, without call numbers, of "Additional resources of the library for American history." It is explained that the arrangement is such as could conveniently be made without an entire reclassification of the library. Blank pages are put at the end of each main class for addition of the lists of accessions issued from time to time for free distribution. The catalog has been prepared under the direction of Mr. W. I. Fletcher.

ANNUAL AMERICAN CATALOGUE, 1895. being the full titles, with descriptive notes, of all books recorded in *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1895, with author, title, and subject index, publishers' annual lists, and directory of publishers. [First supplement to the American Catalogue, 1890-95.] N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1896. c. 17+104+162 p. O. hf. leath., \$3.50.

BELFAST (*Me.*) F. L. General catalogue; prepared by Elizabeth Maltby Pond. Belfast, Me., 1896. 156 p. O.

A title-a-line dictionary catalog, giving in some cases dates of publication, and with reasonably full names. It is clearly printed in double column on white paper. A two-page supplement lists books added too late for insertion in the main division. The notation is a rather puzzling numerical arrangement, probably peculiar to the library. The catalog was printed at a newspaper office, and cost only \$231.

THE *Bookleaf*, organ of the Denver (*Col.*) P. L., has in its February issue a list of books in the library relating to "Washington and patriotism."

ENOCH PRATT F. L., *Baltimore*. [Quarterly] Bulletin, January, 1896. 34 p.

Besides the record of accessions, one page of this bulletin is devoted to a list of "Books about money," headed by the query, "Have you read the President's messages?"

NATIONAL ART LIBRARY, *South Kensington, London*. Classed catalogue of printed books: Ceramics; by W. H. James Weale. London, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1895. 11+353 p. 8°.

N. Y. STATE LIBRARY *Bulletin*, Legislation No. 6, is the sixth annual comparative summary and index of state legislation, covering the laws

passed in 1895 by 37 states and two territories. Each law is briefly described or summarized and classified under its proper subject-head, with a full alphabetic index to the 4847 entries. This year additional intermediate marginal heads give closer classification and make it easier to grasp the contents rapidly. The great problems of municipal government have received special attention. A new feature this year is a separate table of constitutional amendments, arranged by states, showing the result of the vote on all amendments in 1894 and 1895, and giving also those to be submitted to future vote. (310 p. 35 c.)

THE OSTERHOUT (*Wilkesbarre*) L. Newsletter for February contains short reading lists on Benjamin Franklin, Patrick Henry, and Alexander Hamilton.

The PHILADELPHIA MERCANTILE L. Bulletin for January has short "reading notes" on Alfred Austin (9 references), Poet laureate (25 references), Venezuelan question (10 references).

PLAINFIELD (*N. J.*) P. L. Historical reading: a list of books in the library; prepared by Miss Emma L. Adams. Plainfield, 1896. 25 p. O.

Prefaced by "A few words with the teacher," in which are cited cyclopædias, atlases, and reference-books; the list is arranged by countries, then with subdivisions of general histories and special periods, each period being followed by a list of biographies and a list of stories, poems, etc., relating to the period. The United States covers pages 2-14, England has pages 14-21, and the remaining two pages are devoted to "select lists" on general European history and ancient history.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. Bulletin for January has a valuable reference list (9 pages) devoted to the different aspects of the Venezuelan question. It has also a useful "Index to other reference lists" published since October by other libraries, and a record of the lists of books on special topics prepared at the information-desk of the library during the year, which may be consulted by readers on application; this record gives an interesting view of the many and varying subjects on which a library is expected to supply information.

ROYAL Geographical Society, London. Catalog of the library, compiled by Dr. H. R. Mill, London, 1895.

"A very full and valuable index to the literature of geography. The catalog contains the titles of all works in the possession of the Royal Geographical Society published up to the close of 1893. The entries (as many as 18,000) are arranged in four divisions. The first division, which runs into 521 of the 833 pages, is a general alphabetical author catalog; the second comprises collections of voyages and travels, arranged in alphabetical order under authors' names, and containing a brief analysis of the contents of each volume; in the third division,

Government, anonymous and other miscellaneous publications are arranged geographically; while the fourth consists of a list of transactions and periodical publications, arranged in a similar manner according to the place of publication. With such a comprehensive classification it is easy to find the works of each author, and to refer to the literature concerning different divisions of the earth. A valuable supplement to the catalog will be the subject index now being prepared, and in which the principal contents of all the geographical books and periodicals belonging to the society will be classified." —*Nature*.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. Bulletin for February contains special reading lists on Abraham Lincoln, South Africa, Kindergarten.

SENECA (*Kan.*) HIGH SCHOOL L. Catalogue. 10 p.

A primitive little classed list.

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. Bulletin, no. 1, contains a special reading-list on the Armenian question.

STADLER, A: Zur klassifikation der wissenschaften. (In *Archiv f. systemat. Philosophie*, v. 2, pp. 1-37.)

U. S. Department of Agriculture. Library bulletin, February, 1896. Accessions to the department library, Oct.-Dec., 1896. 14 p. Q.

The WISCONSIN STATE HIST. SOC. L. has issued a "List of periodicals in the library of the society that are indexed in Poole's Index to periodical literature, 1882; supplement to same, 1882-84; and Annual literary index, 1892-95." About 250 periodicals are listed.

THE New York World on March 1 published a prize list of "100 best books for girls," chosen from some 4000 lists submitted in competition for a prize of \$50. The prize winner was Mrs. E. L. Chalkley, of Stanton, Va., whose list was selected by the judges of the contest, Miss Jeannette L. Gilder, Mrs. Margaret L. Sangster, and Mr. Brander Matthews. An "ideal list" prepared by Miss Gilder was published in conjunction with the prize list. The lists possess little value as guides or aids in choosing literature for young girls; they are both heterogeneous assortments, classed to cover five or six divisions of literature, and representing individual opinion on the subject.

FULL NAMES.

Buell, C: E: (Sunday. Is not its religious observance a blot on Bible Christianity?);
Cornish, C: J: (Wild England of to-day);
Dawson, S: E: (Electoral atlas of the dominion of Canada.

Giles, Arthur E.; *M.D.* (Moral pathology);
Hornblower, Mrs. Adelia Roberts (Concrete geometry for beginners); C: A. N.
Kinealy, J: H: (Elementary text-book on the steam-engine and boilers).

AGNES VAN VALKENBURGH,

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library.

- Boies, H: Martin (Prisoners and paupers);
 Boogher, W: Fletcher (Miscellaneous Americana);
 Brooks, J: Pascal, *joint author* (A handbook for surveyors);
 Caldwell, Joshua W: (Studies in the constitutional history of Tennessee);
 Carter, Nathan Franklin (History of Pembroke, N. H.);
 Chambers, H: E: (Constitutional history of Hawaii);
 Clute, Willard Nelson (The pteridophyta of North America, north of Mexico);
 Crandall, Francis Asbury (Check-list of public documents);
 Fraser, J: Arthur, jr., and Sergel, C: Hubbard (Sound money);
 Gerhard, Calvin Seibert (Death and the resurrection);
 Gerhart, Emanuel Vogel (Institutes of Christian religion);
 Gibson, Alexander Montgomery (Report upon the Coosa coal field);
 Hillman, Fred Hebard (Early flora of the Truckee valley);
 Hudnut, James Monroe (Semi-centennial history of the N. Y. life insurance company, 1845-1895);
 Huyett, Miles Clayton (Mechanical heating and ventilation);
 King, C: Francis (Methods and aids in geography);
 Lamson, Darius Francis (History of the town of Manchester, Mass.);
 McMurry, C: Alexander (Special method in geography);
 Muhleman, Maurice L: (Monetary systems of the world);
 Piersol, G: Arthur (Text-book of normal histology);
 Puddefoot, W: G: (The minute-man on the frontier);
 Reagan, Harry Clifton, jr. (Locomotive mechanism and engineering);
 Rowe, Stuart H: (Herbart's ansichten);
 Stewart, Fred Carlton (Effects of heat on the germination of corn and smut).
 Swan, Robert Thaxter (Paper and ink);
 Tiffany, C: Comfort (A history of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States);
 Toumey, James W: (Vegetal dissemination in the genus *opuntia*);
 Tucker, Gilbert Milligan (Our common speech);
 Waite, Otis F: Reed (History of the town of Claremont);
 Wakeman, W: H: (Modern examinations of steam engineers);
 Webber, Herbert J: (Studies on the dissemination and leaf reflexion of *yucca aloifolia*);
 Williams, T: Albert (Native trees and shrubs of South Dakota).
 Wilson, Frazier Ells (The treaty of Greenville);
 Wooton, Elmer Ottis (New Mexico weeds, no. 1).

Bibliography.

CANADA. Gagnon, Philéas. *Essai de bibliographie canadienne: inventaire d'une bibliothèque comprenant imprimés, manuscrits, estampes, etc., relatifs à l'histoire du Canada et des pays adjacents, avec des notes bibliographiques.* Quebec, 1895. 10+711 p. O. il. fac-sim.

Such a work as this purports to be is always a welcome addition to any collection of bibliographies. The compiler has not only collected the books, etc., which he describes here, but he says that he has read them, and that the making of this catalog has been not only a labor of love but of enthusiasm. The collection is especially rich in "brochures," those ephemera of bibliography, so valuable to the historian and yet so numerous as to be almost the *bête noire* of the librarian and the cataloger. The notes in this volume are a very valuable feature and thanks are due the compiler for preserving in print valuable information received from the lips of authorities. That the collection should be complete is more than we have any right to expect, but it is exceedingly full and has been admirably put on record. C: A. N.

CHILD-STUDY. Chamberlain, Alex. Francis. *The child and childhood in folk-thought.* N. Y., Macmillan, 1896. 8°. net, \$3.

Pp. 403 to 434 are devoted to a bibliography of the subject. The titles (549 in all) are arranged under three headings: A, Mother, Father, Family, Society; B, Children, Childhood, Child-life, etc.; C, General.

— Sully, Ja. *Studies of childhood.* N. Y., Appleton, 1896. c. 8+547 p. D. \$3.50.
 Contains a 3-p. bibliography.

CHURCH HISTORY. Dr. Samuel Macauley Jackson, secretary of the American Society of Church History, contributes to the annual volumes of the "Papers" of the society valuable bibliographies of "Works of interest to the student of church history." These bibliographies appeared in the "Papers" for 1891, 1892, and 1894; none, however, will appear in the volume for 1895. In the 1894 volume are given the bibliographies for 1893 and 1894, covering 248 pages. The lists are by author and subject, giving full title, date, price, publisher, and other imprint data, and they form a most useful guide to the literature of the subject issued during the period. The yearly volumes of the "Papers" are published by Putnam, N. Y., at \$3 each.

DUBBS, Dr. Joseph H. *The Enoch Pratt Free Library collection of ex-libris.* (In *The Collector*, Feb., 1896, 9: 70.) 1½ col.

Dr. Dubbs describes the collection, which consists of nearly 1000 plates. Most of the plates are of English origin, and the collection was begun by removing the labels from the second-hand books that are purchased by the library.

DUFF, E. G. Hand lists of English printers, 1501-1566. Part 1: Wynkyn de Worde, Julian Notary, R. and W. Faques, John Skot. London, Bibliographical Society, 1895. 100 p. 4°.

EDUCATION. The report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, 1892-93, v. 2, p. 1491-1494, contains a bibliography of the literature evoked by the report of the Committee of ten (of the National Educational Association) on secondary school studies.

VIÉ, L. Les conférences du Salon bibliographiques en 1895. Paris, Besançon, impr. Jaquin, 1895. 8°, 24 p.

Reprinted from the *Bulletin de la Société bibliographique*.

YELLOWSTONE PARK. Chittenden, Hiram Martin. Yellowstone National Park: historical and descriptive. Cincinnati, Rob. Clarke Co., 1895. c. 14+397 p. il. pors. maps, O. \$1.50. Incl. 24 p. bibliography.

INDEXES.

FLETCHER, W: I., and BOWKER, R: R. The annual literary index, 1895; including periodicals, American and English, Essays, book-chapters, etc.; with author-index, bibliographies, necrology, and index to dates of principal events; ed. with the co-operation of members of the American Library Association and of the LIBRARY JOURNAL staff. N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1896. c. 8+259 p. O. cl., \$3.50.

The fourth supplement to the last five-yearly volume of Poole (1887-9) and to the "A. L. A. Index"; a valuable new feature is the Index to dates of the principal events of 1895.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Adrian Ross, pseud. of Arthur Reed Ropes, according to Arthur Waugh, in the *Critic*.

Atey Nyne, name of the author of "Wilmot's child," published in 1895 by Unwin, is revealed as Dr. Joseph Parker, of the London City Temple, in Unwin's announcement in the February number of *Cosmopolis*.

Bohème, pseud. of Demetrius Hatzopoulos, author of "Wild flowers," a collection of 19 stories.

Conover Duff, given as the name of the author of "The master-knot and another story," turns out to be a pseud. for three young Cleveland people, Laura Gaylord, Florence Little, and Edward Cady, who wrote the tales in collaboration.

Edward de Brosé, ps. of Edgar Clifton Bross, author of "A modern pharisee," pub. by G. W. Dillingham, N. Y., in 1895.

Julie K. Wetherill is not the ps. but the maiden name of Mrs. Marion A. Baker. Her articles in the New Orleans *Times-Democrat* are usually signed J. K. W.

Karl Karoly is the pseudonym of Frank Tryon Charles—a fact learned from intimate friends of the author.—A. UNDERHILL.

Yuzov, ps. of T. Kablitz, according to P. Mil-yukov, in *Athenaeum*.

Humors and Blunders.

It must have been a sorely afflicted occupant of a flat who wrote, "Please send me a book with antidotes for musicians."

CURIOSITIES OF CATALOGING. Under the heading *Medicine, Miscellany*, is entered "Physician, memoirs of a. By A. Deimars" (Dumas).

The following extract is taken from a home letter recently received from a young collegian: "I spent last Sunday at ——— University and passed a pleasant hour with Prof. ———, the librarian. I found him like all the other librarians I have ever met: you will find them described in the last part of the 14th verse of the second chapter of Paul's Epistle to Titus."

LIBRARY LABELS, as used by the man who knew so much it tired him to remember half of it: The shelf of dictionaries, cyclopedias, etc., labelled *Lore*. The shelf of histories of war and stories of battle labelled *Gore*. The shelf of ancient histories *Yore*. The shelf of orations and speeches of statesmen and ministers *Roar*. Poetry labelled *Soar*. Works on political economy labelled *Snore*.

EXTRACT from a letter of Ambrose Serle to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated *Eagle*, off Newport, in Rhode Island, 10th January, 1778: "I forgot to mention to your Lordship, that the two public libraries are preserved at Philadelphia. They are furnished chiefly with modern Books, and are disgraced with many Productions of our lowest Authors, even down to Novels and Romances."—*Stevens's "Fac-similes of manuscripts,"* vol. xxiv., no 2075.

THE following "article," taken from one of our local papers, seemed to me too good to enjoy alone, and I felt that I would like to share it with my fellow-librarians. I feel much subdued, and hope not to "know too much" again.

M. A. R.

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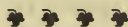
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Publishers' Weekly, July 6, Oct. 5, 1895. Also any of the August numbers, '95.

Literary News, Feb., Oct., Nov., 1895.

Library Journal, August, 1894; Jan., Feb., March, November, '95.

Lemcke & Buechner, 812 Broadway, N. Y.

Bouvier, National Cook-Book, Phila.

Savage, Genealogic Dict. of N. E.

Library Co. of Phila., cor. Locust and Juniper
Sts., Phila., Pa.

French's Notes on the Miracles. N. Y., 1856.

Hall Caine's Bondman. N. Y., 1889.

Rosenthal's Meisterschaft System Spanish Language.
Boston, 1884.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, 27 W. 23d St., N. Y.

Baile, Wonders of Electricity.

Cutter, E., Law of Musical and Dramatic Copyright.

Foot, A. R., Municipal Ownership of Industries.

Jouffray, Thos. S., Intro. to Ethics. 1840.

Phil. Miscellanies.

Kaufmann, M., Socialism and Communism.

Myers, Officers Who Served in Civil War.

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Prof. ARTHUR H. PALMER, *Librarian of Adelbert College, Cleveland, O.*

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ERNEST C. RICHARDSON, *Librarian of College of New Jersey, Princeton, N. J.*

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A. S. COLLINS, *Act. Librarian of Reynolds Library, Rochester, N. Y.*

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SCHOOL NUMBER, WITH WISCONSIN SUPPLEMENT

APRIL, 1896.

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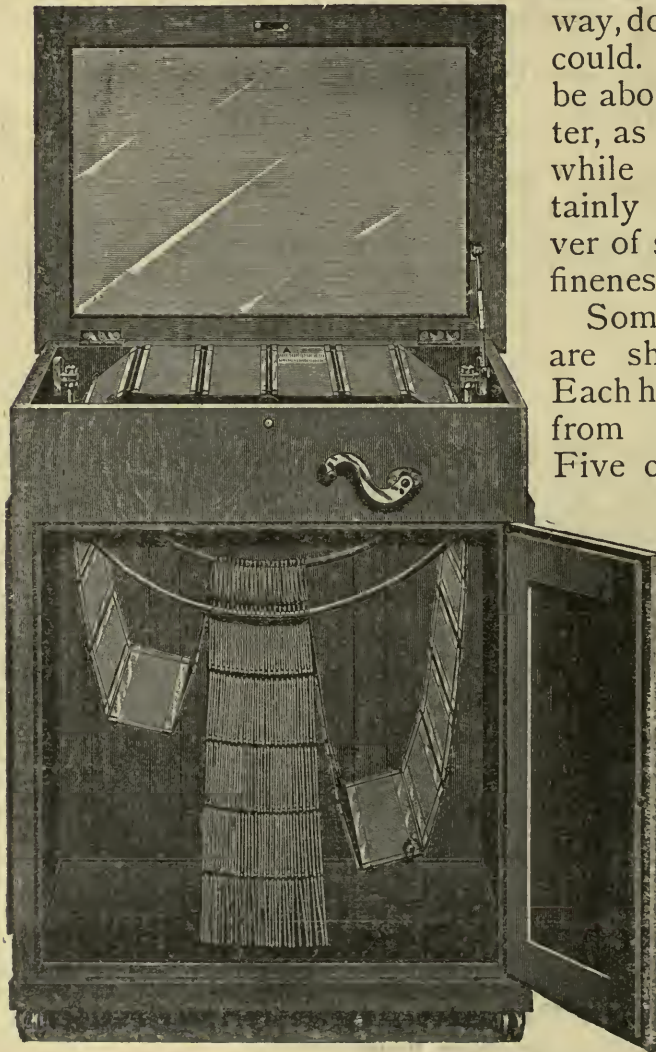
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A Short April Conversation with Librarians.

THIS talk will be brief, as the picture of the Rudolph Indexer not only takes up our space, but it does its own talking, and, by the way, does it better than we could. In fact, it ought to be about sixteen times better, as its silence is golden, while our speech is certainly not better than silver of standard weight and fineness.

Some 250 card-holders are shown in the cut. Each holder accommodates from 25 to 40 entries. Five card-holders are exposed to view at the same time through the glass top. The title or author of every book in the library can be brought to view in a few seconds by turning the crank. We do not mean the crank as shown in the picture, but that of a real Indexer.

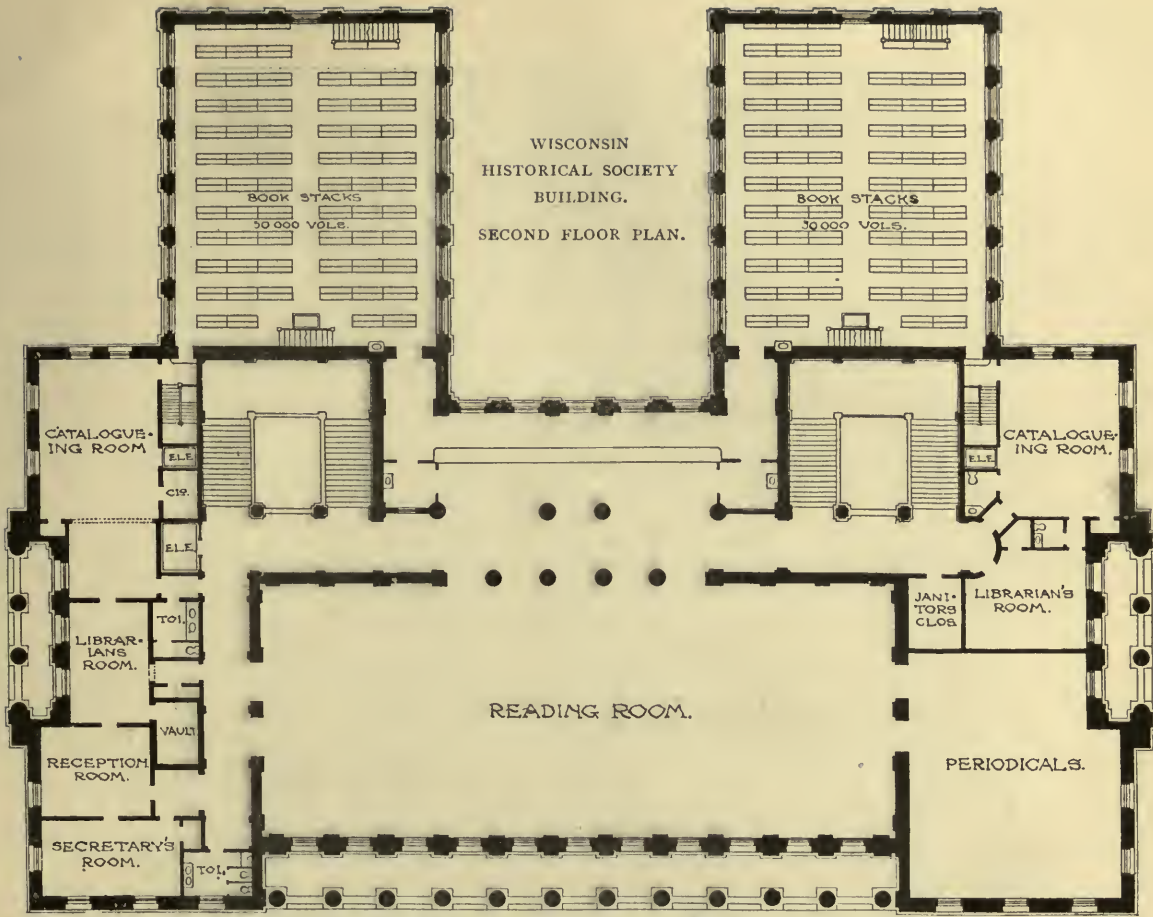
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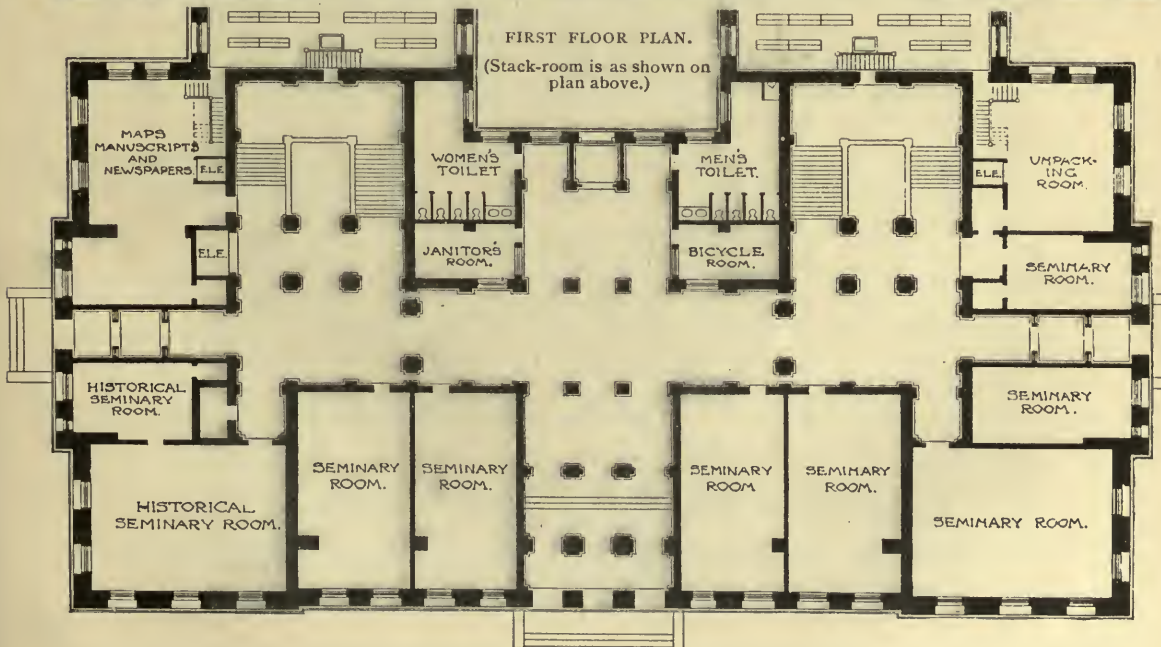
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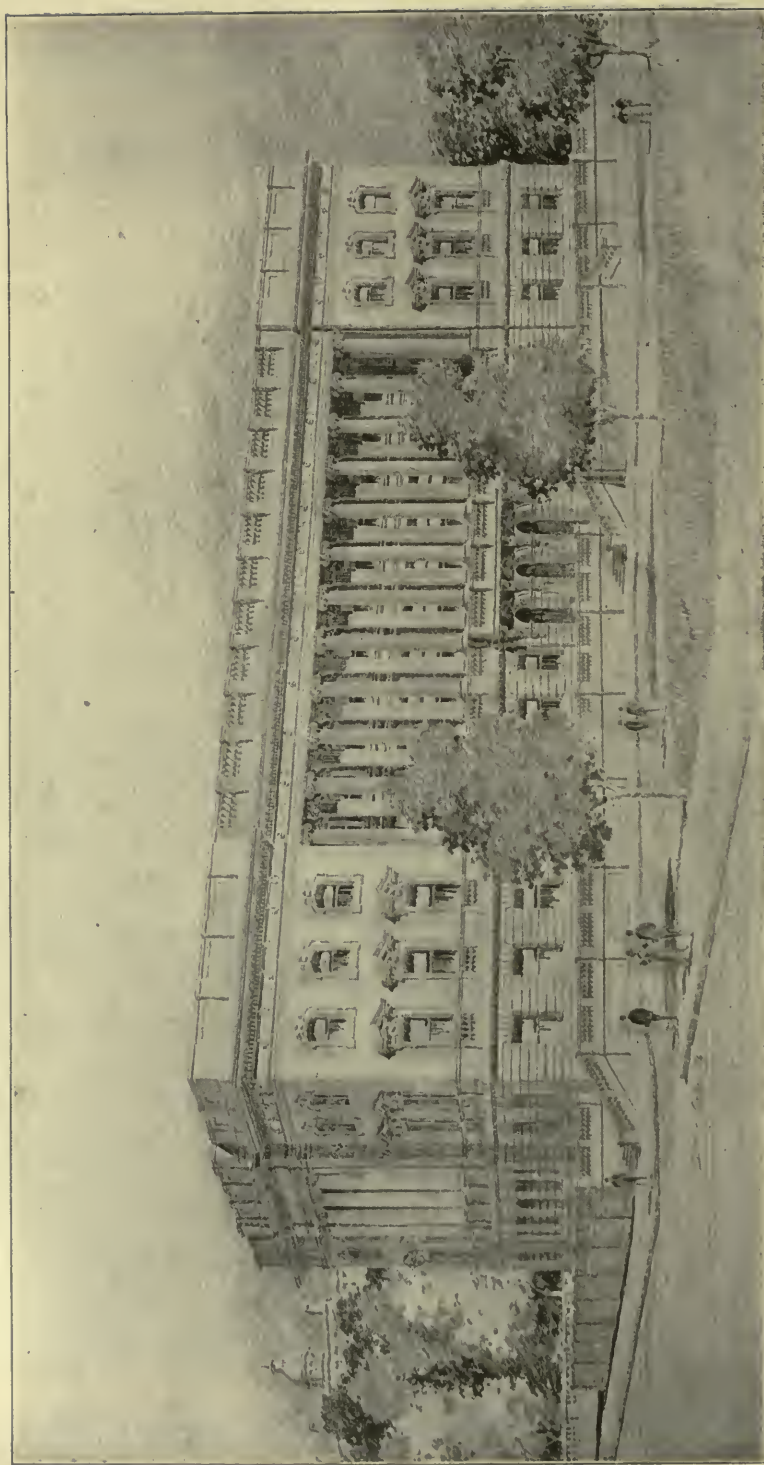
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(Stack-room is as shown on
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WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY—UNIVERSITY BUILDING, MADISON, WIS.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 21.

APRIL, 1896.

No. 4

A YEAR ago the LIBRARY JOURNAL in a special number brought together a collection of articles upon the relations which should exist between libraries and schools. During the months since then much has been added to the literature of the subject, and it is with pleasure that we present to the profession a second School Number, in which fresh phases of what has become one of the most important parts of library and educational work are presented from the standpoint of the teacher and of the librarian. The point of view of the librarian was, perhaps, predominant a year ago; this year the teacher seems to hold the floor, and the possibilities and difficulties of the question from the school side are made manifest. As to the importance of books in a child's education there is no dissenting voice; but the methods by which books can best be made a part of this education are not yet crystallized. To carry on the work rightly the librarian needs to know the teacher's as well as the child's point of view, to appreciate the difficulties in the way, and to realize the necessity of enlisting the teacher's earnest support and enthusiasm. For it is through the teacher only that the best and most effective results can be produced. This statement is not meant to minimize in the least the value of the librarian's personal influence, nor of the guiding of children's reading in the library itself; but the schools reach many children whom the library cannot and does not reach, and if rightly handled the schools should become the best possible feeders to the library.

THE general trend of opinion and experience as shown in the articles in this issue point toward the branch school library—if it may be so called—as the best solution of the problem. The reasons for this are simple enough. In most cities the public library, with or without branches, does not reach a very large percentage of the child population. The school does reach most of these children; it controls a large proportion of their time, and it can exert a strong influence on their home reading. The establishment in each school of a collection of a hundred and fifty or two hundred volumes, to be circulated among the pupils and to be kept fresh

by frequent changes from the central library, would bring many a child to a knowledge of literature other than the cheap and nasty kind. Such libraries cannot be conducted without some sacrifice of time and energy on the part of teachers and principals, and on the part of the library force as well, for attention should be given to library supervision of the collections, to the printing of adequate and interesting lists, and to making the books a pleasant and vital part of the child's school life. Those libraries that have tried the method—and their number is constantly increasing—are unanimous in its favor, and its usefulness would seem to be only limited by the number of books available for the purpose and the time, outside of school-work and play-time, at the disposal of the child.

As an objection to the system it has been urged that the small collections in schools would prevent the children from using the main library and thus debar them from acquaintance with its richer and more varied contents. To this the evident answer seems to be that those children whose natural inclination is toward books will quickly enough find out the treasures of the main library after they have tasted the pleasures of the school collection, and those who would never, of their own volition or by the teacher's urging, use the main library, will make use of the books set before them in school, and may thus be insensibly led into the way of reading good books. Constant reference of the children by the teacher to the main library for reference work, for "composition" material, for "extra" information on lesson topics, will be also most effective in directing the child to the library; while elementary instruction in the use of reference books and indexes, if it could be introduced into the already overcrowded courses of study, would be of inestimable helpfulness.

CERTAINLY, the teacher is the only person to whom the librarian can look for adequate help. Parents, as a rule, unfortunately, care little and know less what their children read; the library cannot, in the nature of things, reach or guide the reading of the majority of children; but the teacher can both reach and influence the child.

So far, the chief obstacle in the path has been the reluctance of teachers to undertake or carry out the additional work that the guidance of their pupils' reading would involve; but within recent years there has been most gratifying change in this respect. The establishment of a library section in the National Educational Association, as is planned for this year, would mark a great step forward; in many schools the library finds willing helpers and coadjutors, and we do not doubt that the time will soon come when the mission of the school as an annex to the library, or of the library as an annex to the school—teachers and librarians may choose whichever phrase they prefer—will be fully recognized, and the two will work hand-in-hand toward the goal common to both—the increase of public intelligence and civic efficiency.

CLOSELY allied, in its educational aspects, to the work of the library and the schools, is the travelling library system that has of late years come so widely into use. The state, which cares for the school, has now begun to care for the library, and in these itinerant collections seeks to bring the educational and refining influence of books to small communities and outlying country districts outside the radius of central city or town libraries. New York was the pioneer in this field, but she has found many disciples, and now the Northwest with characteristic energy is extending and experimenting with the idea in a way that promises most useful and suggestive results. The Free Library Commission of Wisconsin, established only last year, has come vigorously to the front in missionary library work, and now ranks among the most effective educational agencies in the state. Indeed the wave of library energy that is now sweeping over Wisconsin is remarkable. It was most evident at the large conference of the State Library Association held at Racine early in March. Of this gathering one of the leading librarians of the East, who was in attendance, said: "I came back from it with much the same feeling that I have experienced heretofore in returning from one of the best meetings of the A. L. A. It came, in fact, surprisingly near to our national conferences, not only in numbers, but in quality of its proceedings and the spirit which animated them throughout. I was much impressed with what seemed like an electric energy in the air, which one felt to be indomitable, irresistible. It was the energy that

is common nowadays in our library world, but with a certain added 'grit' and 'go' in it that belong peculiarly to the Northwest. What I heard and saw of the library work being done and planned in Wisconsin has led me to expect a great and speedy showing in that state of the influence of books and reading, as co-operative with and supplementary to the influence of schools." This spirit has shown itself in Wisconsin, not only in the work of the state commission, but in the reorganization of the normal school libraries, the establishment of a summer school of library science, the increase of public libraries, and the very general awakening of public interest in library matters. Certainly, in what it has already accomplished and what it plans to do Wisconsin furnishes the best "working model" for states in which the "library spirit" is still dormant. The new building, illustrated in the frontispiece, for the State Historical Society, which in this as in other Western states is really a state institution, will be one evidence of the library enterprise of this enterprising state.

Communications.

MR. PUTNAM ON MÆDIEVAL LIBRARIES.

IN my report of the January meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club printed in your last number, Mr. Putnam is represented as attributing certain customs in giving out books in a mediæval monastery to "Lanfranc, *custos librorum* at Fleury in 1070." Mr. Putnam, of course, made no such statement, the facts being that the account of the custom, which is correct enough, is taken from the rules for the order of St. Benedict, attributed to Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, and to be found in his collected works. This section is interesting, and it may be noted that the librarian was required to record the books given out and the names of those who received them, but the form of charging system is not prescribed, and it is much to be feared that some form of ledger was used. Perhaps Mr. Putnam will tell us about this in that work which we are so eagerly expecting.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST.

A CORRECTION.

YOUR files will show that the Library Association of Indiana is older than you give credit for in Jan. L. J. Organized in 1891, it celebrated its fourth annual meeting Dec., 1895. We are growing so fast we cannot allow the error to pass, lest it appear unseemly to be so independent.

INDIANA LIBRARIAN.

SOFTENING BINDINGS.

CAN any one give a satisfactory method of softening leather bindings not yet cracked, but in danger of becoming so?

M. Q.

LIBRARIES AND TEACHERS.

By J. C. DANA, *Librarian Public Library, Denver, Col.*

READING for young people is a subject which has much concerned librarians in recent years. The modern flood of children's books; the recent rapid growth of public libraries, both in numbers and in size; the very common removal or lowering of age-limit restrictions on book-borrowing at these libraries; the opening in many of them of children's departments; the production of lists of books for children by publishers, librarians, and teachers; the increased attention which the educational world has given in recent years to the study of English and American literature; the attempt of teachers to introduce even the very young to the works of standard writers; all these things, and others not here noted, have helped on the good work of placing approved books in young people's hands. In many cases, without doubt, these many influences, working singly or together, have done more than this. They have put good books for children into the hands of children to whom they are especially adapted; and, we may well believe, they have often awakened in children a taste for reading helpful things, things that taught them how to be happy and to wish to add to the happiness of their fellows.

But the work is only just begun. As yet we do not even know what children like to read; much less do we know what is good for them to read. The layman hears echoes of the war going on—and may it never end—in the educational world over the question of which should form the subject-matter of the child's early education—history and literature, or nature and the science thereof. The quarrel is a pleasant one to see; it is a helpful one, both as it goes on and as it draws to some conclusion. Also it illustrates my point, that as yet we know not what is good reading for the child. We are helped a little by the annotated lists; but not much, as yet. For when we have learned from them that a book is of such and such a kind, that this and the other qualified judge says it is bright and wise and wholesome, we are still in the dark as to whether, first, the natural child will, without compulsion, read it; second, whether, reading it, he will enjoy it; third, whether, enjoying it, he will be benefited thereby. Moreover, the children for whom primarily so many good lists are made will not use them. If they are denied access in a library to the books they will perforce use the lists put before them. But even

then they select their books, do they not? more often by what their playmates say, than by what the annotations of the lists proclaim.

What is needed is a large body of experience, the outcome of many careful observations, the compilation of returns from carefully controlled experiments. In getting these the librarian needs assistance. The proper source to which to look for help is, of course, the parents. But parents pay very little attention to the reading of their children; and even if they could be persuaded to join librarians in the work of observing the little folks, and noting the pleasure and benefit the latter get from their books, the task of collecting and compiling the returns would be an impossible one. We must turn, then, to the teacher. The teacher can give more heed than she heretofore has to the reading of her pupils. The movement to make this work a part of her daily duty, and to give her time for it, is already here, and is making good headway. Her attention once called to the importance of such work, to its never ending variety, and to the many things of interest therein involved, it will not be difficult to make of her an enthusiastic co-worker with the library and the librarian. She can note results, keep records, mark likes and dislikes, and at length reach an occasional dogma. For a long time to come the dogmas will, of course, be general, not special; like this, for example:

"The story of a bad boy" is a good book for most of the boys, of 10 to 14 years of age, who live east of the Alleghenies and north of Sandy Hook; and such boys will have fun in reading it"; or this: "Keep the 'Elsie books' away from all goody little girls; they will make of such little girls insufferable prigs."

It is dicta somewhat after this sort that we need, and teachers, and teachers only, can at present supply them. A bit of actual experience may make my point clearer still: Richard Harding Davis's "Stories for boys" was purchased in certain Colorado schools for supplementary reading. A quick-witted, zealous, and by no means narrow-minded teacher used the book in her class. Before long she came to the conclusion that the stories therein set forth were having an injurious effect on her pupils. They grew a trifle more lawless; they wanted to be tough; they envied the water-rats; and they organized "gangs." She was not dogmatic in the opinion that she observed these things; but

that she did see them was her deliberate judgment. This is the kind of experiment and observation we must have much of before we can take any sure steps toward the sound management of children's reading.

It is with a view to pushing forward more rapidly the work—and many other good works besides—of securing the efficient co-operation of teachers in the evaluation of children's books that steps are being taken to form a School Library Section of the National Educational Association. Petitions to the board of directors of the N. E. A. to establish such a section are now in circulation. The attempt will be made to hold a round-table meeting of such a section at the N. E. A. meeting at Buffalo next July. Mr. Larned and Mr. Dewey and others have promised to push the matter. Any librarian who approves of the project can aid it by calling the attention of his teacher friends to it.

I have enlarged upon one phase only of school and library work. There are many other phases, with many of which we are all familiar. Most of them involve unanswered questions which librarians alone are not rightly equipped or not rightly situated to answer. It is hoped that a school library section, if established, will

do some of these things—it will discuss the advisability of placing small circulating libraries in school-rooms, there to be under the teacher's entire control; it will urge the increase of the number of books placed in every school-room to aid the teacher in her work; it will urge the increase, in number and in size, of school-room reference libraries for the use of pupils; it will advocate the giving to every pupil, by means of such libraries, a working knowledge of books, a beginning of experience in the laboratory method, an apprehension of the fact that out of books he can always correct his own and others' passing ignorance, and can sometimes get out of them a glimpse of wisdom; it will look, with a critical eye, into the size of the average high-school reference library and the lamentably small and ill-directed or undirected use made of the same; it will take hold of the subject of outside reading in the high-school grades, and will attempt to settle the questions of what and how much; and it will, we may trust, help to unite and strengthen the good work of placing the right books in the right hands, along all the many lines of that work which are common to associations of librarians and associations of teachers.

THE CHILD, THE SCHOOL, AND THE LIBRARY.*

BY LINDA A. EASTMAN, *Public Library, Dayton, O.*

THE school trains the child in the use of his powers and faculties, teaches him *how* to learn; the library is the storehouse of wisdom. So brief a statement of facts shows at once the close relation between these two institutions, and that the former in great measure defeats its own ends if it fail to lead to the latter. Discussions of this question have heretofore dealt mainly with methods of interesting the child in reading and of furnishing him with books—of attracting him to the library through the medium of the schools. It remains to pay more attention to the means by which he can be properly trained for reading and research.

The school looks to the library as a most helpful adjunct, and encourages the child to use it, but does the school *prepare* him, in a practical way, to use the library? Might not more be done, for the average child whose school life ends before he reaches the high school? He has such a pitifully small store of

knowledge to face the world with, and how little chance for increasing it! To this child, whose name is legion, the public library should be a veritable gold-mine; it fails of being so simply because he knows not the rudiments of the art of mining.

All individual research in the world of books requires some foundation of knowledge of how to get at them—of the short-cuts that indexes and tables of contents afford, of the best readers' guides and how to use them, of the indispensable books of reference and the fields covered by them. Something of all this is taught in the schools to-day—much more than of old—but this teaching comes rather as the result of the interest and effort of individual teachers than as a necessary part of the school-work which no teacher dare overlook. It yet needs to be ingrafted as an integral part of the whole course of study. True, that course of study is overcrowded, and we would not add another branch—this teaching should become part of the work in every branch. It will start from very small beginnings, but there will be,

* Address at first annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association, Cleveland, at a session to which the teachers of the Cleveland public schools were invited.

almost from the first, a constant broadening of the child's mental vision and an added zest in his work.

To illustrate the commencement of it, take a primary class in geography; they have been over the descriptive part, say of North America. In their text-books, have had it presented in an attractive manner, and made plain with the help of surface and production maps, etc.; they have perhaps become interested in reading King's "This continent of ours," Smith's "Our own country," or others of the books which are helping to add interest to primary geography; but there yet remains to be given more of that drill, that repetition and reiteration of the facts which the teacher knows to be so very necessary if some of those little minds are to retain the knowledge gained. Suppose that at this point she produces some half-dozen of the best elementary geographies which she can find—all different; she then teaches them how to find for themselves the subject they want in the strange books, the first lesson which many of them have ever had in the use of indexes or tables of contents—each child will be eager to find his place first, and the remainder of the class go through the same operation with their own text-books, for heretofore they have always been told just what page to turn to, and have had no practice in doing it in this way. They then proceed to see what these different authors say about the principal features of North America, comparing the various ways of saying the same thing, and noticing any new points. When the lesson is over, what will have been gained? First, the main object, the fixing of the facts in the minds of the children, for they will not only have gone over each point repeatedly, but each time thoughtfully and critically. Besides this, in studying the numerous forms of expression for the same facts, they will have had a valuable lesson in English; some of them will have had practice in sight-reading from new books; they will have learned to apply the term author to the writer of any book, and not only, as you will find most of them have done in their childish way heretofore, to those of a purely literary character. Most important of all, perhaps, they will have had their first practical training in the use of an index, as a little beginning in that knowledge which is to make them more proficient in the use of books.

This work, carried on up through the grades, should be broadened out until it makes them

acquainted with the names of the great travelers and explorers, and with the most interesting and best books of travel and description of the countries as they take them up—until they have become familiar with the standard gazetteers and atlases, know what class of geographical and statistical facts to look to them for, and how to consult them deftly and accurately; and this can all be done, both incidentally and beneficially to the regular work, while greatly increasing the children's knowledge of books. When, for instance, the sixth grade is studying Switzerland, the teacher asks the pupils to bring in a list of as many books as they can find describing that country—the children, each anxious to have the best list, will go to the library catalog (there should always be one in every school-building), will make inquiries at home, and will, whenever possible, visit the library and there consult catalogs, assistants, and the books themselves; the children will then be asked to write these lists upon the blackboard, in alphabetical order as they would be in a catalog—in doing this a great many more little points will be learned than are apparent at first thought, and it should be given much attention, for the expert use of the catalog is an art invaluable to the student as a saving of both time and patience. A few such lessons are needed to teach the young learner that in title entries the library catalog omits the initial article, that he will find the book entitled "The mountains of Switzerland" under "Mountains" and not under "The"; knowing an author or title, and wishing to look up that one book, he will learn to look for these as simple dictionary entries, so, in the case of his wanting to know who wrote "Scrambles in the Alps," or its shelf-number, he turns instantly to S for the title; lacking any data but the subject, or wishing to find several or all of the books on the subject, he will look under Switzerland, *subdivision* Travels.

Through this means the teacher and the librarian will constantly be given opportunities for recommending those of the books mentioned which are best suited for the pupil's reading, and of familiarizing him with the names of those which may be beyond him now, but which he will be sure to enjoy when he is older. It will lead him on, also, into history and to a keener, broader interest in current events. Geography has been mentioned simply as showing some typical possibilities—if needless details seem to have been given, it has been for the purpose of

showing that what is suggested will not add a burden of new work, but will add interest to the old, and that it can begin very early. The constant tuition in books and their use, and the cultivation of a thoughtful and discriminating taste for the best, can and should be brought, incidentally, into almost every branch of study, and that, too, with better results in the studies themselves; the reading, the language, and the science work all invite to it, while the history offers such incentives to this kind of work that the wonder is that it is ever taught in any other way. After reaching the high school the pupil should take a long stride forward in the acquisition of this book knowledge, the nature of the studies and the greater maturity of the pupil being all in his favor. Every branch in the curriculum will admit of, and on second thought seem almost to require, at least a comparative study of text-books, of learning who are the great authorities, and of becoming more or less familiar with the principal works of reference on the subject; the literature and composition classes in particular will give an opportunity for much systematic drill and instruction in method in looking up subjects, in the intelligent use of catalogs and subject lists, of Poole's Index, and of reviews and periodicals; a correct idea should be gained of the general character of the principal encyclopædias and the distinctive feature of each, that they may know which are best to refer to for brief, concise statements of facts, for long and scholarly treatises, for bibliographical references, for recent developments, for matters pertaining to our own country, etc., while it is quite worth while knowing such little points as to which dictionary to go for help in settling the question of beginning a certain word with a capital or a small letter.

It is a big subject with which we are dealing, this instruction in the use of books, but because it must start from such small beginnings, because it must lead the child's mind up and out from utter ignorance to a never-ending increase of knowledge, it is not, therefore, overwhelming — its very bigness and fullness are an inspiration which cannot be felt without an expansion of mind to meet it. It is, perhaps, well that there is no room for it in the already overcrowded curriculum as a separate branch of study, because, if the best results are to be obtained, it must be interwoven with everything else and wherever the opportunity offers. Nor should it be, on this account, a vague and intangible subject to plan for in the course — the

objects to be attained are so definite, the means so abundant. For the teacher herself it will often mean nearly as much growth as for the children, and for the whole school course it will be a constant check on the tendency to slip into ruts of mechanical and routine work. The normal school should give special preparation for it, in addition to that excellent feature which has already found place in some of these schools, a study of juvenile literature from an educational point of view.

We come now to the side of the question which pertains especially to the library. These latter years have brought wonderful progress in library science and economy, but there is perhaps nothing which shows the advance of the library of to-day over that of 20 years ago more than the greater importance which is attached to the work with the children. The work of the librarian has come to be regarded as not merely incidentally but as actively and pre-eminently educational; he is called upon to be himself a teacher in the highest and truest sense of the word, a helper to knowledge — all sorts and conditions of men come to his "people's university" and seek his guidance in research on any and every subject; he must help to meet the needs of the professor and of the artisan, and has often to teach alike the teacher and her smallest pupil.

The hope of the future lies in the children of to-day, and if the next generation make the most of the resources of the library it will be because as children they are trained to use it — hence the greater relative importance of the work with and for them. In reviewing briefly the work which is being done along this line, but little need be said concerning the loaning of books to the schools for redistribution among the pupils, as wherever it is in operation, as it is here in Cleveland, it seems to be so successful as to be limited only by the supply of books that can be devoted to this purpose, and we have known of schools where these books have furnished the life-giving germ of interest which contributed more than all else to a successful year's work.

The careful preparation and free distribution of lists of the best books contained in the library, suitable to the children, is a work which pays well. This is sometimes done by the school authorities, as in the case of the excellent lists distributed in the grammar grades in this city last June, which brought such an increase of children to the library during the en-

tire summer; in some places it is done by the librarian; it would doubtless be best done by the two working together, as the one can furnish an understanding of the needs of the pupils, while the other has the books from which to select material, can attend to the proper insertion of the library call numbers, etc. These lists may be in the form of a general catalog of juvenile books, or of special lists of the best books for boys, the best books for girls, those suited to different grades and ages, books on particular subjects, as United States history, and lists helpful for special day exercises, as for Washington's birthday or Christmas. One who has done much of this work in a large library writes me: "We try to guide the reading of those children who come to the library by the little lists which I sent you. The importance of these lists cannot be overestimated." She goes on to say: "I have lately been attracting the attention of the children to good books through a juvenile weekly paper issued as a supplement to one of our evening dailies. One night I had inserted a list of about 25 of our best books for children *without* giving our library numbers, and offered a prize of a book to the first boy or girl who would copy the list, correctly adding these numbers. This taught them the way to use the catalog, and also got them to come to the library, and, too, attracted their attention to the best books. Two weeks ago I offered a prize of two dollars for the best description of the best book any boy or girl in the state ever read. This will give me an index to what boys and girls really think is best. I shall keep this up, on different lines, during the winter, and will let you know results later.

"So many librarians wait for teachers to make the advances in the way of co-operation. It is the librarian who has something to offer (books), and he should proffer them repeatedly, if necessary. We are 'pushing' pictures this year; mounted a great many this summer which are being eagerly carried off by the teachers." The pictures here referred to are cut from illustrated papers such as *Harper's Weekly* and *Leslie's Illustrated*, from worn-out books and magazines about to be discarded, mounted upon cardboard and loaned to the teachers for use in illustrating the lessons, for busy work for the little ones, etc. Several libraries are thus utilizing what would otherwise be waste material.

The plan of appointing a special assistant (usually one who has had practical experience

both in teaching and in the library) to take charge of the work in connection with the schools, is one which is leading to such excellent results in some libraries that it should be more generally adopted. This assistant should keep thoroughly informed upon the work which is being done in the different grades from month to month, and be ready always to recommend to teachers and pupils the best books on any subject taken up by them, those which will prove most helpful to the work in hand and best suited to the children. The teachers should consult her, should send the pupils to her, and it should be understood by all that during certain hours of each day she is unreservedly at their service. This assistant should be well adapted to and thoroughly prepared for her work, and, above all, should have her interest and energy centred in it. In libraries where one person's whole time cannot be given up to it there should be at least a portion of the day devoted to it; much of the work which she has in charge may perhaps be detailed to others, and she should be capable of giving the younger assistants the instruction necessary for its proper performance, and of inspiring them with the earnestness and the spirit of helpfulness which are necessary to success.

Every assistant in the library, who meets the public, should be, or should be capable of becoming, a teacher of bibliography, and the best work should often be done, the most valuable suggestions given, with utter unconsciousness on the part of the public which receives them. It requires infinite tact, but with the children it is comparatively easy, for the reason that they are so ready to take suggestions and so quick, often, to profit by them. Here the librarian has a decided advantage over the teacher, for she has to meet none of that antagonism of pupil for pedagogue which is an inheritance from the semi-barbarous days of school-keeping; the teacher has to win and then keep the child's confidence—the librarian, on the contrary, may have it for the taking. The reason for this last fact is plain—people are sincere with their books, they throw aside shams and are themselves with them, and why should they not be so with those who help them, in an understanding way, to the books they enjoy?

What opportunities does this not open up to the librarian or the assistant who is on the alert for them—opportunities to guide the children in their reading, to awaken a real interest in a quest upon which they started

in a perfunctory and aimless way, and to give them many a hint as to how to get at what is in books. She can often do much, also, in developing those decided individual tastes which sometimes show themselves in very young children, as when the little eight-year-old comes and wants "that book with the hands and arms in it," and sits by the hour copying simple studies in curve and outline, which he shows to her with the naïve confidence that he "is going to be a artist"; she need not flatter herself that she is fostering young genius—that is more rare than children with a taste for drawing—but she may be sure that she is doing something toward shaping his ideals of the beautiful and the true.

The general reading of children needs wiser and more tactful oversight, by the parent, by the teacher or the librarian, to counteract that tendency to narrow down the range of reading to one class of books, and that too often the poorer story-book. There is perhaps no department of the public library where greater care should be exercised in the selection of books than in the juvenile fiction—*keep the standard high there*. The healthy boy craves stirring tales, but when, as they will, even Kirk Munroe, Stoddard, and Henty begin to seem tame to him, do not let him drop to Castlemon, Alger, and Optic, lead him, rather, to the more lasting delights of Scott and Dumas and Stanley Weyman. It is for the girls, however, that we would make a special plea; so much pains is often taken to interest the boys in biography, history, travel, and science, but the girl who wants a book (and she is more prone than her brother to leave the selection of her books to another's judgment) is given a "pretty story," and she goes on eternally reading "pretty stories," which become more and more highly wrought, until the first thing you know she is in the ranks of those who read nothing but the silly, the sentimental, and the sensational novels—if she has arrived at this point by a round-about course of "goody-goody" story-books, she is only the more helplessly sensible of her fall.

All the while, if she but knew it, the girl would so much more enjoy the better things which she is missing. Help her to these—when she has read Alcott and Mrs. Burnett and Laura E. Richards's stories, she will devour with avidity "When I was your age," "The

one I knew the best of all," and Miss Alcott's life and letters, and want more books of the kind, until before long she will be absorbed in biography. An interest aroused in the personality of the writer of "A New England girlhood" will in turn carry her into poetry, a never-ending delight to the child who has found it out. History, too! I am reminded of the little maid who read it along with her fairy-tales, with the result that she named her cats after historical characters, and executed a favorite doll as Mary Queen of Scots; she is to-day a broader-minded young woman than some of her little playmates whose imaginations admitted of nothing more tragic befalling their dollies than a fit of the measles.

Above all things, see that the child has access to the good books, the great books, the books that stir men of all times and all ages. We would object most strenuously to shutting the children into that part of the library which contains only the purely juvenile books. Do you think it was any food for babes such as the "Little Prudy stories" which called from Mrs. Browning this memory of childhood?

"Books, books, books!

I had found the secret of a garret-room
Piled high with cases in my father's name;
Piled high, packed large—where, creeping in and out
Among the giant fossils of my past,
Like some small nimble mouse between the ribs
Of a mastodon, I nibbled here and there
At this or that box, pulling through the gap,
In heats of terror, haste, victorious joy,
The first book first. And how I felt it beat
Under my pillow in the morning's dark,
An hour before the sun would let me read!
My books!"

Oliver Wendell Holmes struck a keynote when, speaking of the reading habit, he said, "Above all things, as a child he should have tumbled about in a library—all men are afraid of books who have not handled them from infancy." That word "tumbled" he uses advisedly, if not literally—it expresses one thing which it is all-important that the child should have, a sense of freedom. Freedom under law it will of course be—he must learn that liberty which is not license, he must learn to respect the right of books to careful usage as he learns to respect the rights of his fellow-men. Regard for students requires that quiet be maintained in the library, and this should be insisted upon, though by making the conditions such

that the very atmosphere of the place suggests it this task will be an easy one. Cleanliness is no mere virtue, but an imperative duty, when handling books which can carry deadly germs of disease, and the children should be taught always to come to the library with clean hands. This task is a very hard one sometimes, but it is so important as to demand more attention than it sometimes receives; if the children are refused the books, always kindly but always firmly, so long as they come with dirty hands, they will learn this lesson. In one reading-room the assistant is instructed to take the names of all children who are sent to wash themselves, that the ones who come to the library dirty habitually may be singled out and dealt with as their cases require.

In cities of any size it is the children more than any other class who are shut off by distance from the use of the library. It is here that the greatest value of the branch library shows itself. Andrew Carnegie said that a large library without branches is like a fishing-sloop without small boats; if the small boats could be furnished, if a well-selected general collection of even a few hundred good books could be put within easy reach of every child in every city and town in the state of Ohio, it would not be long before the truth of his comparison would be apparent to all.

One reform which is being accomplished in many places is the abolishing of the age limit — as soon as the child is able to read and can write his own name (some enthusiasts in the children's work even say as soon as he can come to the library and carry home a picture-book), he should be allowed to draw books in his own name. It is said that children under the age limit can draw upon their parents' cards, but this plan is a mistake; first, because it is injustice to the parent to deprive him of his card that his child may use it, and second, because it is a fact that some parents are too selfish to give up their cards to their children.

One thing leads always to another — in this country the public library was the forerunner of the public museum and the public art gallery, which are in many instances being so wisely housed under the same roof with the library, and forming with it (and with the class and lecture rooms which should be included) a vast educational institution upon which the schools can draw constantly for help. The museum especial-

ly seems too important to be overlooked in this connection — it can be started so modestly, and, if public interest be awakened in it, is so sure to grow rapidly and to receive valuable donations and additions. The united efforts of the teachers, during one school year, to secure objects of interest in illustrating the school-work, could result in the nucleus of a collection which would soon be priceless in its educational value to the town. One bright woman has suggested a plan which should be put into operation, viz., a system of cross-references from library to museum and *vice-versa*; for instance, a case of birds or animals could have neatly posted on it a list of the books relating to them which the library contains, giving first the juvenile, then the popular and general, and last the more deeply scientific works, while in the natural history department of the library attention would be attracted to a list of specimens in the museum. Wherever desirable this could be carried into great detail, referring from separate specimens to certain books, or to certain chapters in a book, by means of printed forms. The museum contains, say, relics from the mounds of Butler county, described so fully in Maclean's "Mound-builders"; beside these relics is placed a card referring to this book, giving its shelf-number and page of the subject, while in the book at this place a fly-leaf insertion states that in alcove B, case 2 in the museum, specimens no. 15-48 will be found of great interest in illustrating this section. The same thing could of course be done in connection with the art gallery. If well done, what powerful incentives would this not offer to all classes of people alike to reading with a purpose, and that purpose the acquisition of knowledge! And to the child these incentives would be strongest, because his interest is most easily awakened. Besides this, it would be an incalculable saving of labor, for in the looking up of the references it would be doing once for all the work which would otherwise have to be done by each individual student.

All of these plans are along the line of development, and, primarily, for the development of the child. They are claiming the attention of all educators, whether teachers or librarians, and they are calling for a closer union of forces, a more thoroughly systematized co-operation in a work where "the field is white unto the harvest, and the laborers" may be many.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL.*

BY CLEMENT C. YOUNG, *Lowell High School, San Francisco, Cal.*

IN the LIBRARY JOURNAL for April of last year from the leading editorial I read: "There is no more important, as there is no more interesting, part of a librarian's work than that dealing with the relations of the library and the school. It seems not too much to say that this is the most vital branch of a library's administration. The library that has no connection with the local schools is neglecting its mission and ignoring its noblest opportunities." These are strong words and words with all the ring of truth, but they strike the ear of the California school-teacher with a somewhat unfamiliar sound. I feel that in them the writer has in mind the good of the child, rather than some possible advantage to be gained by the library—that their spirit is truly pedagogical, yet rarely have I read them in educational literature, and never have I heard them in meetings of educational bodies. It is a case in which teachers are to be taught. Accordingly, when I, as a teacher, am asked to approach this subject, I do it with considerable diffidence. It is so vast, so far-reaching, so all-important in its implications, and yet so new that I am fain to attempt merely to survey the territory we shall settle upon, rather than seek to harvest any crop of practical methods. But, inasmuch as the apathy of teachers in the past would seem to indicate that we see little need for the inter-relation which is here suggested, I would like to consider not only the aims and methods of this new use of the library but the necessity for it as well. In order to get the subject properly before us, and possibly to aid in its subsequent discussion, I shall lay down a series of propositions, to be later amplified and proved as nearly as space will allow.

1. Systematic and properly chosen reading, in its capacity of forming correct habits of thought and research, broadening the horizon of the reader, and developing that soundness and nobility of character which we are told is the prime object of education, is an almost indispensable factor in the training of the young; and conversely, bad or slovenly reading on the one hand, or no reading at all on the other, is

an all too frequent means of producing bad citizens and unworthy specimens of humanity.

2. Children if left to themselves will *not* choose the best reading, and will frequently choose very bad reading. Moreover, if this choice is left to their parents, through lack of time and interest or through ignorance on their part, it will, though sometimes made wisely, be frequently made very unwisely, and still more frequently be made not at all.

3. It therefore devolves upon the school as the next most responsible factor in the child's development, to see to it that the best books are placed before him, and that his interest is aroused in such a way that he will read them; and still further, that he will read them in such a way that there may be formed in him a correct taste for books and a correct reading habit, which he may take with him into life as the most precious gift of the school system, and which he will inevitably transmit, at least in some degree, to the generations following him.

4. But the school can manifestly not do this unless it has access to books. It is, of course, impossible to expect the pupil to furnish these, as witness the continual outcries against the present slight expense for ordinary text-books. It is equally impossible to expect any school library to furnish them—if it manages to keep a fairly decent collection of standard reference works, it is about all that it can do, and far more than it usually does. In short, after turning to all other sources, we shall be forced to come at last where we should have come at first, to the public and semi-public libraries.

5. Furthermore, the school and the library must co-operate in some more direct and concerted manner than any at present employed. To hint to the pupil that such and such is a good book to read, and that it may be secured from a certain library, is not enough. To direct his attention to the fact that such and such an explanation of some reference is to be found in a big building on a certain street is with the average boy of little avail. The book must be taken from the library and brought to the school. The boy's interest must be so aroused that he will *want* to read it. A record of his reading must be kept. Reports of books read and allusions hunted down must be continually asked for. Discussions in regard to his reading

* Address at meeting of the Library Association of Central California, March 13, 1896; topic for the meeting: "Practical use of public libraries by school-children: aims and methods."

must be constantly carried on. A fever of interest will generate and must be allowed to spread. The teacher must enter into the pupil's life, see things with his eyes, sympathize with his enthusiasms, and thus, without his ever perceiving it, lead him on to higher and higher planes of thought and ideals of life. All this, if this new work of the teacher is to become a determining influence in shaping the character of the boy or girl.

As to my first proposition—that the reading of books is one of the most potent elements in education and the formation of character, I need say nothing before an assembly of librarians. The province of your libraries is not to amuse, but to educate. If you thought your sole province was to hand out to readers the choice productions of Mrs. Holmes or Mrs. Stephens and their numerous congeners, you would, no doubt, disband this association and resign your situations forthwith. The thing that has lifted the library profession to its present position is the thorough realization of the fact that its function is an educative one; while the thing that has given to it its dignity is the fact that its mission is so fully recognized.

If, then, the reading of books is educative, at what period in the life of man is their use so important as that at which he is most susceptible to the influences of education? There is no fallacy so pernicious as that which assumes that a child must pass through a certain stage of reading trash in order that he may acquire that appetite for reading which will cause him to assimilate more nutritive pabulum; in short, that he must know the bad in order to choose the good. As well bring him up on tobacco and strong drink in order to teach him temperance, or make his diet consist of mince-ple and ice-cream in order to ward off dyspepsia and give him a good digestive apparatus.

But now to my second proposition, that the child if left undirected cannot choose his own reading, and that his natural advisers, his parents, for the most part either cannot or will not. In my desire to bring this question as nearly home as possible, I took occasion during a recent session of the Lowell High School, through the kindness of its principal, to have the following list of questions distributed to the class teachers and propounded to the pupils:

1. Did you during your grammar-school years belong to any library or have any library card which you regularly used? If so, what library?

2. Did you during these grammar-school

years make a practice, by the advice or direction of your teachers, of consulting and reading books connected with your lessons, such as biographies as aid to history work, travels as aid to geography work, etc.? If so, to what extent?

3. During these years: *a.* How many books of general reading (not immediately connected with your lessons) did you during this period average to read per year? *b.* By whose advice were they chosen? *c.* What per cent. of these were books of fiction?

4. During these years were your classmates (boys answer for boys—girls for girls) in the habit of reading "on the sly" such books as you think parents or teachers would have disapproved of, so-called "dime novels," etc.? Was this done in any of your classes, as far as you know?

5. Name in the order of your enjoyment of them the best five books (story-books, etc.) read by you before your entering the high school.

Before proceeding to analyze the answers to these questions, and in order to emphasize the full value of the answers, I wish to state two or three reasons for a belief that the boys and girls who responded to them are, both in their intellect and in the culture of the homes from which they come, more favored than the average pupil in our elementary schools: first, in that they have come to high school at all, which presumes diligence and ambition on their part, as well as some means and a regard for education on the part of their parents; second, in that the Lowell High School, having been for years almost the only preparatory school for the universities, and still sending a large majority of its graduates there, is patronized by parents who if not college graduates themselves, have a culture which has been sufficient for them to recognize the importance of college training; and, third, that the common reputation of the Lowell High School among grammar-school students—namely, of exacting hard work—keeps away from it to a marked degree all but the material best prepared by heredity, nature, or early training.

If we find, then, that the reading of these children has stood in need of supervision, there can be no doubt of the fact that the large body of children in the lower schools demand it to a far greater degree.

From 389 pupils in all I received reports, the substance of which I give as briefly as

possible. I find in answer to my first question that the libraries have been fairly well patronized, 258 of the pupils, or over 67 %, belonging to one or more of them or having the use of a card for periods ranging from a few months to the whole of their grammar-school course ; 125, or about 33 %, had no access to libraries whatever. As to the method by which the books to be read were chosen the reply was not so encouraging, for, of the 349 who reported on this, while the parent aided the choice of 132, or 38 %, and the teachers aided 67, or 19 %, a far larger number, namely 171, or 49 %, were practically unadvised in their reading. With regard to the number of books read per year my report is general. While about 15 % confessed to have done almost no reading at all, a nearly equal number seem to have been extremely intemperate in their reading. Though inclined to doubt the boy who reported having read 400 books per year, I do not at all question the accuracy of his 20 or more schoolmates, who claimed from 150 to 200. But the most interesting results obtained were from the investigation regarding the vicious or dime-novel class of books. Here, let it be remembered, the boys answered for the boys of their classes, the girls for the girls. A few did not answer at all, deeming, no doubt, that my question might be an innocent-looking bait to tempt them to some hidden disaster. For the results, I own I was utterly unprepared ; but of the 222 boys reporting, 132, or 60 %, stated that this class of literature was "much" or "some" in vogue with their classmates, while 20, or 9 %, admitted that it was read by a few. Of the 91 girls reporting, 22, or over 24 %, confessed that their girl classmates read them "much" or "some," while 9, or 10 %, stated that they were read by a few.

I have thus tried to give a few of the main facts seen in the reports. I will not weary you with a further recital of figures, and cannot transmit to you the general impression which a detailed study would give. I may only say that a most careful study of this report, including observations of books noted, aided by my own personal acquaintance with the pupils who reported, would of itself lead me to a thorough belief in my second proposition : That children, if left to themselves, will not choose the best reading, and will frequently choose very bad reading, and that, for some cause or other, parents do very little in guiding this choice.

Now if the first two propositions are true, if

the child must read and if he cannot, unaided or aided at home, determine what to read, and, what is equally important, cannot learn how to read in the proper sense of that term, then the third, *i.e.*, that the school must lend the helping hand, will scarcely need proof, for the very necessity of the case makes the work devolve upon it.

One of the chief educational watchwords of the present day is correlation—which is generally taken to mean the adjusting of studies in such a manner that one may help out the other. I wish to use the word in what I believe to be a higher sense. Among the influences which aid the development of the child's character are his associates, his home, the church, books, and the school. To correlate these, as far as possible, that one may help out the other in making the child's life a unit, is a considerably higher problem than to determine whether history should precede geography, or geography history, or whether they may not be better taught together than separately. To aid the child in choosing his associates is largely outside the power of the schools; the home and the church are jealous of their rights, but books and their choice belong to the child's mental life, and not only may, but in all reason must, be looked after by the power that has the general supervision of his mental growth. The choice and use of books should come under the province of the school. To it the pupil should be accountable for what he reads and how he reads. From it he should get the advice, the inspiration, the foundation of taste which will make him a wise and careful reader. "But," some one objects, "all this will take time." I hope so. I hope to see the day when half the time spent by the pupil in dawdling over his arithmetic, or droning through an uninteresting reading lesson (so called), or learning by heart entirely mysterious and valueless grammar definitions, or committing to memory pages of history text-book or lists of the South Sea islands and their productions, will be given to the flesh and blood and life of the never-dying masterpieces of his mother-tongue; and that a large part of the other half be spent in a way radically different from that at present employed. What keeps the life out of our schools more than anything else is the infliction of text-books and the entire failure to generate in the pupil anything like a spirit of investigation. Dr. Samuel Thurber, one of the best teachers our country has produced, says: "The world being full of books, it is pedagogic high

treason to act as if the text-book contained the whole canon of knowledge. The past begins to open only to the student who explores many sources and sees things from many sides. Research is the new watchword. Pupils like to conquer difficulties. They like the adventure of searching a library for a hidden reference. For the teacher to explain everything in advance, and then to expect of the class only to say back what has just been said to them, is to reduce teaching to the lowest depths of imbecility."

Yet in my investigation, on asking whether the teachers had required the reading and consultation of books to aid in the regular school work, when my meaning was finally comprehended, I found from 200, or 53 %, that it was never done, and from 75, or 20 % more, that it was done rarely, if at all.

Accordingly, it would seem that the school should have supervision over the child's use of books along two distinct but equally important lines, the first of which will teach him in the only way in which anybody in this world is ever taught, namely, by making him learn to investigate things for himself; and the second of which will direct him in such a way that, during his whole life's reading, he may, both artistically and ethically, learn to know the good from the bad, and become accustomed to choose the good because it is good, and to discard the bad because it is bad.

But, as I have indicated, in order to be able to attain these ideals the schools must have books, and for these it must turn to the library. So important does this latter factor become that the school in a certain sense appears to be merely an adjunct to the library. That I may not appear too revolutionary in this statement, I will appeal for aid to Dr. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education, who says: "The school is set at the task of teaching the pupil how to use the library in the best manner—that, I take it, is the *central object* toward which our American schools have been unconsciously tending." Words as forcible as these, uttered by the head of American schools, and backed up by the scholarly, thoughtful, extremely conservative nature of the man who gave them utterance, cannot fail to have their weight. So to the library we come, as teachers, and, to our gratification, find not only the door open, but the most cordially welcoming hand stretched out to greet us. The books are at once at our disposal, privileges of all kinds are granted to us, any amount of labor is most cheerfully entered

into for our sakes—in a word, if ever were found willing allies to any cause, they are the custodians of our public libraries. Not a single experience this, but the almost universal testimony of every one who has ever approached them with an earnest, serious purpose. And most particularly is the teacher welcomed, for as their records plainly show he is the very individual on whom for years they have been seeking to lay hold.

Now to my fifth and last proposition, respecting the practical methods by which the school and library may co-operate. Although I suppose it is really the topic set me, I must be pardoned for saying very little about it, for after all the question of method is the least important aspect of the subject. The rigorous law of supply and demand teaches that the demand, if strong enough, will always find a supply forthcoming. "Where there is a will there is a way," and the excellence of the way is in direct proportion to the energy of the will. Once let the teacher appreciate half the responsibility attending the guidance in this direction of the souls committed to his care, and he will find no hindrance in librarian, trustee, or patron. Of one thing, however, I am convinced (and that I have mentioned before), that the books *must* be taken to the pupils rather than the pupil taken to the books. When the mountain would not come to Mahomet, there was but one thing for Mahomet to do. But in San Francisco, as indeed in most other places, that necessity has been foreseen and provided for. I think I am safe in saying that there is scarcely a library in the United States which has granted to schools in so generous degree the privilege of taking books from the library as the San Francisco Free Public Library has conferred through its board of trustees, by resolutions of October, 1894, and March, 1895.

By its provisions the Lowell High School has deposited, as a perpetual letter of credit, 250 library cards entitling it to that many books. During a period of 12 months, it has drawn for the use of its pupils nearly 1900 books, averaging to have on hand a continual stock of about 200, ever changing as the needs of the work require. Nearly every book is used every day by several different pupils. As many as 150 books have been taken out in a single night. By means of several different devices, most of which are not only self-registering but also give the pupil access to the books, an extremely small amount of the teachers' time is taken in

merely clerical work; and yet, so far as I know, but one book has been reported lost, and we are living in hopes of recovering even that.

Now, exactly the same privileges that the Lowell High School enjoys were given by the board of trustees over a year ago to four high and 23 grammar schools. The same courtesy and obliging, helpful aid which the Lowell High School has always found at the hands of Mr. Clark and his assistant, Mr. Lichtenstein, doubtless awaited these schools. Yet, from the 26 schools outside our own, I am informed that the record stands: one high school—a few books taken at rare intervals; one grammar school—a few books taken with some regularity; one grammar school—a few books taken by one class for two or three months. And all this time the pupils are browsing at their own sweet wills among the thousands of good, bad, and indifferent books the library contains, and among the countless other books, neither good nor indifferent, which no library would accept, in an almost entirely blind, aimless, undirected way.

I have stated the *is* and the *has been* as accurately as I have been able to do. I am convinced, however, that the future will tell a different

story. As I said at first, I have never heard this subject discussed in a gathering of California teachers. I dare say that it is a new one, even in gatherings of California librarians. But you have brought it up, and you will keep on bringing it up, until the public, and even we teachers, begin to take notice of you and listen to what you say. The rest is victory. Time was, and not so very long ago, as I quote from the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, that the warden of one of the first of our college libraries assailed some luckless students who had ventured into its sacred precincts, with the cry, "Boys, what are you doing here? This is no place for you." Time is in another of our college libraries that the edict, "Let there be light," has gone forth, the librarians offering to freely give a portion of their time that the students may be with their books for more than nine hours per day.* Time will be when the need of library aid is just as clearly felt for the children of the primary and grammar schools as for those of any college or university in the land.

[* Electricity has recently been put into the library of the University of California, the librarian of which is Mr. Rowell, president of the California Library Association, under whose auspices this meeting was held.]

MEANS OF LEADING BOYS FROM THE DIME NOVEL TO BETTER LITERATURE.*

By THEODORE C. BURGESS, *Dept. of Latin and Greek, State Normal School, Fredonia, N. Y.*

EVEN genuine progress brings its evils. Refined ways of living have been attended by diseases never known in the free outdoor life of less civilized ages. The introduction of labor-saving machinery has brought new elements of trouble into the world of labor. Even the art of printing, next to the invention of language itself and its alphabetic signs, the most beneficent work of human genius, has its great possibilities for evil as well as for good. Every stage in the world's advancement brings its new and difficult problems to add to those inherited unsolved from previous ages.

The dime-novel evil is one of our most recent ills, but we have not yet seen its end. Like all other habits which become so widespread and persistent as to prove a menace, this appeals strongly to something inherent in human nature. These are the evils most difficult to control or eradicate and the most widely pernicious, because they adapt themselves to some

almost universal demand, but always recognize it from a false point of view or in a way whose tendency is ever downward. We all recognize the novel as a powerful engine for good when wisely employed by both author and reader. Its special activity for evil has been developed within the past few years. It is scarcely half a century since these "printed leaves from the tree of evil knowledge" began to fly over our land; but so thickly do they fall that it is little wonder if beneath such deadly covering the germs of good become smothered. There is no need of blinding ourselves to the fact that a distressingly large proportion of our young boys and—I must add—girls are reading this foolish and ruinous literature; though I am not sure that the number of boys is not often overrated. But what concerns us immediately are the questions: What can be done and what are we doing to check or remove this evil?

From lack of extensive personal experience in dime-novel literature and in the effort to secure some reliable evidence at first hand,

* Address before the N. Y. Library Association meeting held at Buffalo, N. Y.

I sent to a large number of teachers in western New York a set of questions, with the request that they place them before their boys between eight and eighteen years of age, and that they return the answers to me. The following were among the questions: 1. Have you ever read dime novels? 2. How many? 3. Have you stopped; if so, why? 4. Do many of the young people whom you know read them? The meaning of the term "dime novel" was in each case explained by the teacher, so as to make it include all the cheap, trashy, inflammatory literature, perhaps more often sold now for five than for ten cents. Candid and full answers were asked for and were I think received, as in no case was a pupil expected to attach his name. The replies from nearly 1000 boys present some interesting features, which will be referred to later. In general I was impressed with the lack of uniformity in the distribution of the dime-novel habit. Several towns seem to be almost absolutely free from it, while in others of similar size and situation it seems to have secured a firm hold.

The third question — Have you stopped; if so, why? — is the only one which bears with absolute directness upon how to cure the dime-novel habit, but I shall perhaps be allowed to state in a few sentences the results upon the other points. Of the nearly 1000 pupils, 416 had never read dime novels and 472 had read them, ranging in number from 1000 to 1 apiece — far the larger number having read less than 10. Of the 472, about 125 state that they have not stopped and have no intention of doing so. About 350 have stopped, if we may trust their statement, and for reasons which are stated later. In two schools the teacher asked the girls to reply also, and the results were to me at least somewhat surprising, for out of 76 girls who responded 30 had read dime novels, as against 46 who had not, and 15 of the 30 had not stopped. The novels read by the girls were probably quite different in character from those read by the boys, but hardly less pernicious. The question, What can be done to lead a girl who has fallen into the trashy-story habit to like better literature? is almost equally pertinent and important with the one immediately under consideration.

There are many persons who seem by nature to revel in mental filth and upon whom no effort, however serious or protracted, seems to make an impression. Such we have everywhere and always with us; but the vast majority of those

who indulge in dime-novel reading can be cured, and to effect this I should rely chiefly upon three things: First, the power of the human intellect, the better nature, to assert itself even when cramped and thwarted and kept for a time from development by vicious habits. I believe that a very considerable proportion of our boys grow out of the dime-novel habit and into the reading of better literature by processes of nature and promptings of surroundings without conscious effort from outside sources or violent struggle within. The taste for such reading wears itself out, the mind becoming more mature and stronger in spite of relaxing habits, takes up better books. The digestive system has elastic power to recuperate after the ill-judged and debilitating diet which too many children receive from ignorant or careless parents, and the evidence gained from the responses received from the boys themselves strengthens confidence that there are similar possibilities in the mental equipment. Of the 350 who have ceased to read dime novels 174, or almost exactly one-half, state that they stopped because such literature no longer interested them. They outgrew the habit.

My second main reliance would be in the power which older persons have to mould the young; or in other words, on sound and kindly warning from parents, teachers, and friends. There is a large class of youth, heedless, impulsive, impressionable, who follow evil practices, thoughtlessly, who through dimness of mental or moral vision and lack of vigorous will-power fail to discriminate for themselves between the good and the harmful, but who will yield to an impulse from outside, and when once the right is plainly set before them, will follow it cheerfully and unhesitatingly. Only 21 directly stated that they had ceased to read dime novels because some other person had pointed out its evil results and warned against them, but nearly 150 said that they stopped because they became convinced of the evil effects, and doubtless a considerable proportion of these should properly be classed here. Since making some investigation I have come to think that the number which can be cured by the ways just mentioned is greater than I had before imagined; but it is only with the stronger and better natures or those in whom the habit has not secured a very firm grasp that these means are usually prevailing.

There is still left a sadly extensive number whose better natures either never existed or have

become too thoroughly undermined by bad habits ever to grow sound by virtue of inherent powers, and with whom wholesome advice and portrayal of the pernicious results of their course are utterly unavailing. For these other and more laborious methods must be employed. The explosive power of a new affection is, I believe, the force which must be brought into action in most such cases. Create a love for the higher and the lower will disappear. That a boy who has wholly given himself up to dime-novel reading can be brought to enjoy good literature and to read little or nothing else by a gradual substitution of the good for the bad has been proved by experience a multitude of times. The natural agencies for accomplishing this result are the home and the school. The physical well-being of a child is almost entirely a matter of nutrition, and so is the mental well-being. Yet many parents seem to realize the first but not the second. They are careful to guard the child in its eating habits, its associates, and in other important directions, but feel no concern over the mental food by which its intellectual life is being nourished.

Many parents are satisfied to see a child with a book or paper without inquiring what is the character and effect of the literature which is being read. They take little or no supervision over the child's reading, much less are they careful to provide something suitable and healthful. When, as is natural, the child has fallen into bad reading habits they do not realize that they are themselves largely responsible and are powerless to assist in a recovery. The time will come when parents will be more alive to their responsibilities than they now are. Many of our larger towns now have clubs and schools for the training of mothers. The kindergarten, now happily found in a large proportion even of our villages, carries with it often the mothers' meeting. These means, which have made a distinct beginning, will be increasingly operative in the immediate future. The home should be the stronger, but my own impression is that at present the school is the more effective and that it has become, within the past very few years, so thoroughly alive to the vital importance of the matter that it constitutes to-day the main hope for leading boys from evil to good reading habits.

One of our eminent educators says that it should be an aim of the public school to teach young people to use fiction as they are taught to use a knife — without cutting the fin-

gers. The teacher has a wonderful opportunity to interest boys in heroes whom it is right to admire. Within very recent years a great improvement has been made in our school readers, and at just the point where the need was most imperative — in the lower grades. The well-chosen selections, the supplemental reading, the stories read and commented on by the teacher combine to make the reading class now a source of pleasure and inspiration. There is constant effort on the part of the teacher to make every study, however remote by apparent nature, suggest and lead to good literature. All this in general.

In the individual case probably most of our schools follow more or less closely the plan outlined in the following letter from the superintendent of schools in a town in a neighboring state: "If we find a boy addicted to the reading of trashy works, we find out what particular style he reads, whether the blood-and-thunder kind or one containing description of hunting life or those giving accounts of wayward boys and their adventures. Then we select books containing more or less of this particular kind of literature, yet based on fact or reason and written in a pure, clean tone. Care is then taken to lead them from one to another volume each a little advance upon the former. This will give you a hint of our method. Usually we can report progress and success." In the Normal School with which I am connected a few years ago we realized that in our intermediate department — ages from nine to sixteen — bad reading habits were considerably prevalent. Accordingly each pupil was asked to hand in, without signing his name, a list of five books which he would like to have in a library for the room. The list thus gained was carefully edited and many other volumes added and the library placed at the disposal of the pupils of this particular room. The effect of this in bringing about better reading habits was immediate and important. There has been comparatively no trouble since that time, and our local newsdealer tells me that his sale of dime novels has fallen off very materially within the last few years. We are this year adding to our library and also placing one in the primary department, making three distinct libraries in our school. Equally effective has been the plan followed in the schools at Plattsburgh, N. Y., where a few years ago great trouble was experienced through the prevalence of the dime-novel mania. Various experiments were tried, ending in procuring a library for the grammar

grade and giving each pupil the privilege of drawing books and reading one study hour each day. The books are not to be taken home, but the reading in school is a part of the regular work just as much as a class recitation. The results have been most satisfactory. The dime novel is no longer read and good reading habits are growing rapidly.

Exactly in line with this and I doubt not most effective as a means of promoting good reading habits, is the system of travelling libraries, recently started by the University of the State of New York, whose features and whose actual and possible good effects are too familiar to need further mention here.

It is my opinion that our American newspaper is to a very censurable extent responsible for the dime-novel habit. Young people read for themselves and hear from others the sensational and overdrawn, often untrue accounts of fights, murders, elopements, love intrigues, breach of promise suits, and the like, until they are led to satisfy a taste thus easily formed by stories wholly devoted to such themes. An improvement in the moral tone of our newspaper would, I believe, be marked by a diminution in the vice

of low reading. It would be of interest and perhaps lead to important practical results if some responsible body could collect information as to the amount of trashy literature sold and read throughout the country. Such an investigation might furnish a new basis for agitation and intelligent action. It is unfortunately not the boys alone with whom we have to deal. The dime-novel business presents some features of similarity to the liquor traffic. There is money in it, and unscrupulous publishers, like manufacturers of intoxicants, are pushing their sales with all the energy and skill of the most shrewd and successful business men. The literature, I am told, is supplied to all news-stands without their order, and the unsold surplus taken back, so that the local dealer has the material placed in his hands without his direct volition, and the supply is constantly renewed without financial risk. We have a law against the sale of that which is obscene, and it is worthy of consideration whether the law should not go one step farther—not a long one—and include such papers as the *Police Gazette* and those other forms of degrading literature known as the dime novel.

THE LIBRARY AS AN EDUCATIONAL FACTOR.*

BY MARY E. COMSTOCK, *Principal of the Walton School, Cleveland, O.*

IN this last quarter of the century, when everything seems to be moving with increased velocity, our schools are trying to keep pace with the times and to share in the general progress. A knowledge of the "three R's" is no longer considered a liberal education, for our pupils now have object lessons, manual training, nature studies, and all the etcetera which are to be found in every well-prepared course of study.

But none of these is so important as one of the R's—reading. It lies at the foundation of everything else. And if the foundation is not well laid, no superstructure, however beautiful, will long stand. Reading means the power to read intelligently and the awakening of a thirst for books. Much of our school-work has a tendency to disgust pupils with books, and study becomes drudgery, a task and a burden which is abandoned as soon as possible. But the awakening of a desire for books is not enough.

We must cultivate in our pupils a taste for good reading that shall turn with disgust from that pernicious literature that can now be found on every hand so abundant and so cheap. We must have good literature for our boys and girls. They must have some acquaintance with our best authors, if they are to become good and intelligent citizens. Patriotism, love of truth and beauty are best cultivated by the reading of good literature.

How is this to be obtained? When we realize that of the great army of children who enter our schools each year, many of them, in fact the majority, leave at the age of 14, this becomes an important question. When they leave school to earn their own living, how will they spend their leisure time? Reading stories of wild adventure and romance? Do these stories contain high ideals or noble lessons which will make them better men or women, and intelligent citizens?

Some of you can remember when to speak of literature for the elementary schools would have been an absurdity. Now all recognize the fact that good literature should have a place in

* Address at first annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association, Cleveland, at a session to which the teachers of the Cleveland public schools were invited.

every school-room. Our compilers of school-books, in response to this feeling, have greatly improved the readers. Those in use to-day contain selections from the best authors with artistic illustrations. But these selections in many cases lose half their beauty by being separated from the parts to which they are so closely related. Many of these to be appreciated should be read entire. Our readers are fragmentary, things of shreds and patches. Better these fragments than nothing, but they do not supply the need. It is not strange that children taught to read only from their readers find on leaving school satisfaction in reading the sensational fiction which has sprung into being in response to the demand of an uneducated taste.

Our boards of education in this and other cities are responding to the general demand and are furnishing supplementary reading. This consists of sets of good books, and when the reading hour comes these are used instead of the readers and now we have something that is complete.

Sometimes the book is adapted to the needs of the class and it is retained until completed and results in much good. Sometimes the book sent is beyond the comprehension of the class and is of little use. Great care is taken in selecting, but this result must follow in any large city in some parts of which the population is largely foreign. Much credit is due those who inaugurated and are carrying on this advance movement, and it is helping to spread good literature, for many pupils become interested and wish to own the book read and others will draw it from the public library, for to obtain the greatest good this book cannot be used simply as a reader but should be in the hands of the child to read when he is in the mood for it, at his home with the family to discuss it.

But the larger number of our pupils, and therefore the most deserving of consideration, are not able to buy, and the public library, because of its remoteness, is often not available. For this class the public library ought to be an important educational factor. How can this be brought about? You will pardon me if I now relate a little of my own experience.

The school district which I represent is a small one, the population consisting of a few Americans, many Germans, and a few other

nationalities are represented. There is very little wealth, although many have comfortable homes with a fair amount of culture; others are very poor. The adjoining district is almost entirely foreign, principally Bohemian. They have settled in such large numbers in this part of the city that they do not feel the need of becoming Americanized, and they cherish their own language and peculiar customs. The children are sent to school and learn to read, many times without understanding very much of what they read.

When they enter the fifth grade they are sent to us, and the teacher who receives them thinks "What a stupid, unintelligent set! Can they ever be taught anything?"

I know from experience that they are not stupid or lacking in intelligence. There is material here of which to make future scholars, men of letters and statesmen, and it is our duty to discover these and speed them on their way. Their apparent stupidity arises principally from their inability to understand the English language, and it is for this class and others like them, for similar conditions prevail elsewhere, that the library should come in to aid us in our work.

Some years ago Mr. Brett, appreciating the value of good books in the schools, allowed teachers to draw four or five books at a time. This number was afterwards increased to 40, and the length of time for which they could be retained was lengthened. Four years ago Mr. Brett thought that if the books sent to one building could be placed in one room and pupils allowed to select from the whole number, more good would result, and we were asked to try the plan. Three or four hundred books were sent to the building and placed in cases in the office, for our rooms are crowded, and these books were loaned to pupils in all the grades above the fourth, and during the last half of the year to the fourth grade. The children came by classes to select, usually accompanied by the teacher to render what assistance she could.

The children of the eighth grade were allowed to select first. I watched them carefully and found that those who had books at home chose well, but most of the others were attracted by the pictures, or the size, or perhaps by an attractive binding. The same observation was made in the seventh and sixth grades, but I have

never seen such utter helplessness as was shown when one of these fifth grades of which I have spoken entered our library.

The first time they came simply because they were invited. Most of them had never before had in their hands any books except school-books, and their limited knowledge of English made these anything but interesting. They stared at the books and at me, and were so perfectly helpless that I selected for them simple stories that I knew that they could understand. When they returned these books there was a gleam of intelligence in their faces, and many wished to ask questions about the book returned and some were allowed this time to select from a number which I had laid aside as suited to their needs. In a few months a transformation had taken place. They were no longer dull and stupid, their vocabulary was enlarged, they did better work in the class-room, and they would talk about books and authors with a fair degree of intelligence. They had learned that much valuable information could be obtained from books and would ask for help in looking up various subjects which had been talked about in the class-rooms.

By inquiry I found that these books were often read by other members of the family.

The eagerness with which the books are now taken shows how great the want has been. The sensational novel or story paper which a few years ago was so often found in many of our pupils' desks or concealed behind some book during study time has entirely disappeared, I hope never to return. It is with us no longer an experiment, but has been clearly demonstrated that a library ought to be considered as the adjunct of the public school, joining in the task of popular education.

If each of the large school-buildings in the outlying districts could be made the centre of a library district in charge of some one who was not only responsible for the books but also for a judicious use of them, some one who knew the needs and abilities of the children and the people, the library would be one of the most important factors in our educational work. If the teacher can have the books desired and can succeed in directing the choice of the child so that he will learn to love the good, the pure, and the beautiful, we may be assured that his education will not end with his school-days, but will be carried on through years of maturity.

PROPOSED LIBRARY SECTION OF THE N. E. A.

IN accordance with the plan of forming a School Library Section in the National Educational Association, of which mention is made elsewhere in this issue, the following petition was prepared by Mr. Dana, president of the American Library Association, and copies have been widely circulated in the East and West by various librarians, Mr. Elmendorf, Miss West, Miss Sharp, Mr. Green, Miss James, Miss Hewins, and others, who have obtained many signatures of leading members of the N. E. A.:

"To the Honorable Board of Directors of the National Educational Association:

"GENTLEMEN: School libraries have become important factors in educational work. One of the most valuable equipments one can give young people for their work in life is such a knowledge of books and their use as will enable them to go direct to sources of correct information and opinion. This equipment can be best given, in fact it can only be given, to the average child by the use of a school library, reference or other.

"A collection of books in every school-room for every-day use is coming to be considered a most essential part of the school-building's furniture. These books introduce children to the best literature of the world; they interest them in other phases of any subject they may be studying than those set forth in the text-books; they arouse in them the love of reading and give them a habit of reading; they waken and inspire the teacher, and make it essential that she herself shall go outside of text book work if she would keep up with the advancement of her pupils; they familiarize the children with books and their use, and in any subject they permit the beginning of that laboratory method which is now considered so essential in all educational work.

"In connection with these school libraries a great many questions have arisen and are constantly arising, questions not yet satisfactorily answered. As, for instance, in regard to the number of books that should be included in them; the character of these books, the best reading for the young, the best reference-books for the young; questions of lending, of access, of manner of use, of influence, etc. They are all matters which intimately concern the teacher. They are matters that, in a different field, have been discussed by librarians in the annual conferences of their American Library Association and in their library journals. Owing to the great demands on the librarians of public libraries in other directions, and owing to the peculiar nature of the questions which arise in regard to school libraries, it is not possible for professional librarians as such to discuss, to propound, or to answer, as they should be answered, the questions in regard to school libraries already hinted at.

"In view of these considerations, of the wide-

spread and growing interest in the subject, and of the very important work such a department could do in enlightening school men, especially boards of education and superintendents, in regard to the necessity for equipping school-rooms with appropriate book collections, we respectfully urge that you establish a School Library Section of the National Educational Association."

This petition will be presented to the board of directors at the meeting of the N. E. A. in Buffalo this year, and it is thought that favorable action will be taken on the matter. Most of the educational people who have been consulted approve the plan heartily, and there seems to be no way of giving rank and distinction to it as an important subject of discussion at the N. E. A. meetings except by sectionalizing it. Such sections can be formed only by the board of directors on the written application of 20 members.

LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS AS ART EDUCATORS.

J. C. Dana, in The Bookleaf, Feb., 1896.

THE Public Library, Denver, has for several years been saving the pictures from illustrated journals, the supplements—colored and uncolored—of the *Art Amateur* and the *Art Interchange*, the better of the full-page and double-page pictures of *Harper's Weekly* and *Harper's Bazar*, and *Life*, sheets of designs issued in monthly parts, illustrations from books published in parts, of which incomplete sets have been secured, often for nothing, sometimes for a small sum; and the full-page and often smaller illustrations from such magazines as the *Century* and *Harper's*.

These pictures have been mounted on sheets of manilla paper, stamped with the library stamp, stamped also with a word like: "Wood-carving," "China - painting," "Geography," "American art," "French art," indicating the class to which they respectively belong, and sorted into a series of drawers made for the purpose. These drawers are in the gallery in the rear of the book-room in the library, and are open to every one.

Great use has been made of these illustrations by teachers, in school-work, and by amateur and professional artists in every line. Those who are interested go to the collection, look them over, select what they please, and take them away, record being made of them simply as so many sheets of design. They can be kept for the regular length of time, or, on request, for longer than the regular time.

In the last six or eight months some of the finer pictures that have been secured have been mounted on sheets of white cardboard. These have been used, as had those on manilla paper before, to decorate the children's room and other parts of the library—being changed from time to time. Just before Christmas all the reproductions of pictures of the Madonna that could be found, up to about 40, were mounted on cardboard and hung up about the library.

One of the kindergarten teachers has again

begun since Christmas to give, in her kindergarten school-room, a series of exhibitions, such as she gave on several occasions last year. She borrows from the library 100 or more of these mounted pictures, making her own selection, and on a certain day hangs them on the walls of her school-room. She has previously notified the children that at a certain hour in the afternoon, when the school is not in session, the room will be open and they can come in and look at the pictures. She always has a large attendance and plenty of enthusiasm.

In connection with the work in drawing in the schools, the director has long wished to arouse an interest both among teachers and pupils, especially pupils of the higher grades, in the work of the artists who are distinguishing themselves in illustration work in the journals of this country. With this object in view she has selected from the library's great store of back numbers of illustrated magazines and journals a number of packages, each including some 50 numbers, which are to be sent to eighth-grade teachers in the several buildings. With these packages go sheets of heavy gray paper, cut to about seven by nine inches, and a note of instructions. The teacher and the pupils are to select from these illustrated journals the work of such artists as the director of drawing specifies, choosing, of course, only the larger and better pieces, mount them on the sheets of gray cardboard, arrange them by artists, saving also any critical or descriptive or biographical notes of the artist that may be found in the same journals.

BOOKS AS CARRIERS OF DISEASE.

THE *Lancet* for Feb. 8, 1896, gives a synopsis of the results of investigations conducted by Dr. du Cazal and Dr. Catrin, from the *Annales de l'Institut Pasteur*, 1895, No. 12:

"New and old books that had been in use in the wards of the hospitals were soaked in bouillon, which was then added to different culture media, and used for inoculating various animals. In this way it was found that even an absolutely new book was not aseptic, but that it contained no pathogenic germs, which, however, are invariably present in old books. Is a book soiled with the secretions of a person suffering from infectious disease capable of transmitting the disease to another individual? The experiments devised for the elucidation of this point concerned the streptococcus, the pneumococcus, Löffler's diphtheria bacillus, the typhoid fever (Eberth's) bacillus, and Koch's tuberculosis bacillus. With regard to the first three germs the answer is in the affirmative, whereas it is in the negative for the last two. Dr. du Cazal and Dr. Catrin are positive as to the impossibility of rendering animals tuberculous by means of paper charged with Koch's bacillus. Can books be easily and thoroughly disinfected? Fumigation with formic aldehyde yields good results, but the application of this method on a large scale is difficult. Disinfection in the autoclave is perfect, all germs being destroyed; but while stitched volumes bear no trace of the process,

blinding is deteriorated. After all, the safest plan is to burn all books that have been exposed to a source of contamination."

In *The Sanitarium* for March, 1896, is an article on "Infection spread by books," taken from the *Westminster Gazette*, the writer of which urges that precautions should be used by the managers of public libraries against the danger of infection. The danger, however, seems to be largely overestimated in certain quarters, especially where it is used as a leading argument against the establishment of a public library. "A medical man of large experience in Boston, U. S., has stated that he has never known an instance where there were any grounds for believing that contagious diseases were carried by books in circulation in the public library. In the year 1872 a severe epidemic of small-pox prevailed in Boston, and the medical man in question saw every patient, and traced, where possible, the history. In no instance did he connect the infection with the use of books."

THE BEST 50 BOOKS OF 1895 FOR A SMALL LIBRARY.

A LIST of 306 of the leading books of 1895 was recently submitted by the Public Libraries division of the New York State Library to the librarians of New York and other states, to obtain an expression of opinion respecting the best 50 books of 1895, to be added to a village library.

From 139 lists that met the conditions the following choice is indicated:

Rank		Votes
1	Burnett, Mrs. F. H. Two little pilgrims' progress. Scribner, \$1.50.	96
2	Kipling, Rudyard. Second jungle book. Century, \$1.50.	95
3	Maclaren, Ian, <i>pseud.</i> Days of auld lang syne. Dodd, \$1.25.	94
4	Atkinson, Philip. Electricity for everybody. Century, \$1.50.	85
4	Brooks, Noah. How the republic is governed. Scribner, 75c.	85
6	Coffin, C. C. Daughters of the revolution and their times. Houghton, \$1.50.	77
6	Stockton, F. R. Adventures of Captain Horn. Scribner, \$1.50.	77
8	Lodge, H. C., and Roosevelt, Theodore. Hero tales from American history. Century, \$1.50.	72
9	Stedman, E. C. Victorian anthology, 1837-1895. Houghton, \$2.50.	67
10	Crawford, F. M. Casa Braccio. 2 v. Macmillan, \$2.	64
11	Sherman, John. Recollections of 40 years in the house, senate, and cabinet. 2 v. Werner Co., \$7.50.	63
12	Harris, J. C. Mr. Rabbit at home. Houghton, \$2.	62
13	Mitchell, D. G. English lands, letters, and kings. v. 3: Queen Anne and the Georges. Scribner, \$1.50.	59
14	Lippincott's gazetteer of the world. New ed. Lippincott, \$12.	58

14	Walker, F. A. Making of the nation, 1783-1817. (American hist. ser.) Scribner, \$1.25.	58
16	Zangwill, Israel. The master. Harper, \$1.75.	56
17	Weyman, S. J. Red cockade. Harper, \$1.50.	55
18	Clemens, S. L. Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson. Am. pub. co., \$2.50.	54
18	Henty, G. A. Knight of the white cross. Scribner, \$1.50.	54
20	Wiggin, Mrs. K. D. Village watch-tower. Houghton, \$1.	52
21	Porter, L. H. Cycling for health and pleasure. Dodd, \$1.	51
22	Lowell, J. R. Last poems. Houghton, \$1.25.	50
22	Maartens, Maarten, <i>pseud.</i> My lady Nobody. Harper, \$1.50.	50
24	Arnold, Matthew. Letters of Matthew Arnold, 1848-1888. 2 v. Macmillan, \$3.	49
24	Butterworth, Hezekiah. Zigzag journeys around the world. Estes, \$2.	49
24	Davis, R. H. Princess Aline. Harper, \$1.25.	49
27	Ward, Mrs. E. S. P. A singular life. Houghton, \$1.25.	48
28	Balfour, A. J. Foundations of belief. Longmans, \$2.	47
28	Crockett, S. R. Men of the moss-hags. Macmillan, \$1.50.	47
28	Lang, Andrew. Red true story-book. Longmans, \$2.	47
31	Guerber, H. A. Stories of the Wagner operas. Dodd, \$1.50.	46
31	Lang, Andrew. My own fairy-book. Longmans, \$2.	46
33	Crawford, F. M. Constantinople. Scribner, \$1.50.	45
33	Leypoldt, Mrs. A. H., and Iles, George. List of books for girls and women and their clubs. Lib. bur., \$1.	45
33	Oliphant, Mrs. M. O. W. Makers of modern Rome. Macmillan, \$3.	45
33	Weyman, S. J. From the memoirs of a minister of France. Longmans, \$1.25.	45
37	Wright, C. D. Industrial evolution of the United States. (Chautauqua.) Flood, \$1.	44
38	Brooks, E. S. Boy of the first empire. Century, \$1.50.	43
38	Earle, Mrs. A. M. Colonial dames and goodwives. Houghton, \$1.50.	43
40	Bolton, Mrs. S. K. Famous leaders among women. Crowell, \$1.50.	42
40	Davis, R. H. About Paris. Harper, \$1.25.	42
40	Farrar, F. W., and others. Westminster abbey and the cathedrals of England. Winston, \$3.50.	42
40	Mathews, F. S. Familiar flowers of field and garden. Appleton, \$1.75.	42
44	Greene, F. D. Armenian crisis in Turkey. Putnam, \$1.	41
44	Jewett, S. O. Life of Nancy. Houghton, \$1.25.	41
44	Munroe, Kirk. At war with Pontiac. Scribner, \$1.25.	41

- 44 Willsey, J. H., *comp.* Harper's books of facts. Harper, \$8. 41
 48 Shaw, Albert. Municipal government in Continental Europe. Century, \$2. 40
 43 Wiggin, Mrs. K. D. and Smith, N. A. Froebel's gifts. (The republic of childhood, v. 1.) Houghton, \$1. 40
 50 Scudder, S. H. Frail children of the air. Houghton, \$1.50. 39

It will be noted that 14 of the books in this list are fiction, seven juvenile, and four biography; books of reference, social science, travel, and history are represented by three titles each; folk-lore and fairy-tales, natural science and poetry have two titles each; and religion, education, useful arts, fine arts, music, sports, and literature are given a title apiece.

State Library Associations.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

THE March meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held on the 9th of the month at the Apprentices' Library, Fifth and Arch streets, Philadelphia, at 8 p.m., President Joseph G. Rosengarten in the chair.

Two amendments to the constitution were offered by John Thomson, of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Rule 4, Sec. 6, he suggested, should read: "No president or vice-president shall hold office for more than one year in succession," in place of "No person, etc." Rule 5, Sec. 1, he thought, should be altered to increase the executive committee from five to nine. Referred to executive committee for report. Eight persons were elected to membership in the club.

President Rosengarten then introduced the speaker of the evening, Miss Caroline M. Hewins, of the Hartford (Ct.) Public Library and secretary of the Connecticut Library Commission. Miss Hewins's subject was "Libraries in Connecticut," and she gave an interesting review of the library development of her state. The library movement in Connecticut, she said, began 195 years ago, when several ministers met in the town of Bradford and gave a few volumes for the foundation of what is now the library of Yale University. 30 years later a library association of 25 "co-parceners" was formed in Durham, and this example was soon followed by other towns. The lyceum lecture movement, started in 1830, led to the organization of many libraries, but in 1887 Bridgeport was the only town in the state supporting a free circulating library by direct taxation, though at the same period Massachusetts had 175 free libraries.

At the conclusion of her *résumé* of Connecticut library history President Rosengarten, Mr. Montgomery, Miss Kroeger, Mr. Thomson, and others entered upon a discussion as to the feasibility of a library commission for Pennsylvania.

A vote of thanks was extended to Miss Hewins for her address, and the meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

CLARENCE SEARS KATES, *Secretary*.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the Colorado Library Association was held in the Chamber of Commerce, Denver, on Friday, March 6, at 8 p.m. About 30 people were present.

Mr. J. H. Van Sickle, superintendent of school district No. 17, Arapahoe county, gave an interesting talk on "Libraries in the school-room." Mr. Van Sickle is one of the few school superintendents in the United States who have given this matter much consideration. He said that many experiments had been tried to arouse an interest in books among the pupils. Making the school a delivery station for some central library had not proved very satisfactory, because the children found it hard to get such books as they wanted by calling for them from a catalog, and some means of bringing them in closer contact with the books was necessary. He suggested several plans for accomplishing this result, and then described the method that he had adopted in the schools of North Denver. His plan was to place about 50 books in each room in every building in the district, commencing with the 3d or 4th grade. As the children pass from grade to grade they are brought each year in contact with a different collection of books. The pupils were encouraged to read these books and to consult them for reference and to take them home. The books for the lower grades were such as would arouse an interest in the young pupils. Those for the higher grades were selected with more special regard to supplementing regular work; thus gradually leading the pupil from the interesting story-book to the higher fields of literature, science, and art. So far the experiment had fully justified the money expended, and he was of the opinion that a further application of it would give still better results.

Several of the teachers in North Denver then told of the results of the actual working of this system as seen in their own school-rooms. Among these were Mrs. Allen, Miss Skinner, Miss Kaltenbach, and Miss Maxwell. Miss Kaltenbach said that with the books right at hand it was not difficult to interest the pupils in good literature without any seeming supervision of their reading. By talking to them about the books, asking them questions in regard to literature in general, and encouraging them to make use of such reference-books as were accessible, a general interest in and knowledge of books were promoted. By careful inquiry among her pupils she found that last September only eight of the pupils in her room had cards at the Public Library; but that since she had had books in her school-room this number had rapidly increased, until now there were few children in her room who were not regular patrons of the city and public libraries.

The prevailing opinion among those present seemed to be that such experiments as the one Mr. Van Sickle is making should be encouraged in every school district in the country.

The committee on library commission, consisting of L. C. Hoyt, J. W. Mills, and G. M. Lee, made a preliminary report, and recommended

that the number of the committee be increased to nine. After a little discussion the report was adopted, and the executive committee of the association was instructed to appoint the additional six members.

JOHN PARSONS, *Secretary*.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

THE Library Association of Central California held its regular meeting Friday evening, March 13, 1896, President Rowell presiding. The president in introducing the topic of the evening, "The relation of the public school to the library," said that the librarian and teacher should be natural allies, one assisting the other. He introduced Mr. C. C. Young, of the Lowell High School, who presented a paper on "The public library and the public school," which is printed elsewhere in this issue. (See p. 140.)

Mr. Joy Lichtenstein, of the Free Public Library, followed with an interesting paper, in which he held that the initiative should come from the libraries. He explained the system of lending to the schools followed in the San Francisco library, and gave statistics of the use made of the privilege. Miss Sawyer gave her experience as custodian of the reference-room of the Free Public library, and related many amusing incidents of the people met with in her work; she expressed herself as hopeful of the best results in the co-operation of the library and the school.

Mr. F. H. Clark, of the Lowell High School, followed with a paper on "The library and the teacher." Miss J. S. Klink, of the Franklin Grammar School, then gave an interesting account of the many fads in teaching which different boards of education introduce. She held that the habit of omnivorous reading was worse than not reading at all, as the child's mind was thus overloaded with a heterogeneous cargo of facts; "the mind gets tricks and attitudes as the body does." She did not believe in books written down for children. Better have the children stretch up to long words, leaving room for the imagination to play between the syllables, or a field from which to ask questions, than have things made too easy; and she held that the teacher's responsibility for the child's reading was great, as it is the teacher who is looked up to for the first seven or eight years of school life. What the teacher suggests, recommends, insists upon, the child will read. "The habit of good reading is the basis of an education. Accustom children to good books, have them read at the proper time, under the proper conditions, and a long step forward in the child's education will have been taken."

A discussion followed, which seemed to show that the apathy of the teacher was the strongest opponent of the library movement, although librarians, perhaps, expect too much. The use must come gradually.

The president then announced the topic of the April meeting as "The press, the pulpit, and the public library as a means of influencing and elevating humanity."

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

Library Clubs.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

THOSE intrepid members of the Library Club—some 30 in number—who braved the furious storm of March 19 felt themselves amply rewarded for their effort, as the meeting at the Bruce Memorial Library proved to be one of the most interesting of the year.

Mr. Bostwick, librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library, welcomed the club, saying that while it was six years since the club had met there, he hoped six years would not lapse before it should meet again at this or some other branch of the Free Circulating Library.

The report of the committee on the annual dinner was presented, together with the suggestion that the next dinner be in celebration of the 21st birthday of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The report was accepted and the committee discharged. A resolution was introduced by Mr. Nelson, petitioning Congress to reprint the A. L. A. Catalog, now out of print; it was unanimously adopted.

The regular program was opened by the paper by Mr. R. R. Bowker on "Libraries and library problems in Greater New York." As the paper appeared in full in the March number of the JOURNAL, an abstract of it would be superfluous. On the conclusion of the paper the subject was thrown open for discussion.

Mr. Bostwick, replying to the suggestion that the New York Free Circulating Library be united with the New York Public Library, said that whatever the outcome of that might be, it was at least certain that there would be no competition between the two institutions; that the Public Library would not establish branches in localities already covered by branches of the New York Free Circulating Library. Mr. Bostwick also spoke in favor of the old reservoir site. Mr. Nelson spoke in favor of the Lenox site for the main library, retaining the Astor building for patent reports and other works needed by lawyers and professional men.

Mr. V. H. Paltsits, of the Lenox Library, spoke of the legal difficulties in the way of changing the Lenox site. The Lenox Library owns 34 city lots, between Madison and Fifth avenues, worth about \$1,500,000, which were left on condition that it should not be used for any other than its own library purposes. Moreover, the trustees had within three years expended \$100,000 upon repairing and refitting the library building. Mr. Paltsits said that he spoke unofficially, but that judging from the action of the trustees in the past, he thought it unlikely that they would consent to the sale of the Lenox site. He also urged that the proximity of other institutions of art, learning, and philanthropy marked that locality as a fitting home for the great library of the metropolis. The movement of population in New York is northward, and in a few years the Lenox site will be quite as central as Forty-second street, while the fact that the library is far enough

from the whistle of cars and the noise of trucks is an advantage that all students would appreciate.

Mr. Baker, of Columbia, said that what New York wants is not a great public library like the British Museum, the Bibliothèque Nationale, or even the Boston Public Library; that the estimated income of the New York Public Library — \$150,000 — would not begin to be sufficient to build up and carry on such a library. New York already has facilities for the student — first-class medical and law libraries, good theological libraries, while Columbia is gathering a fine collection on all the subjects taught in a university. But New York needs a system of free libraries, covering the city, which will put knowledge into the hands of the people. There should be 40 or 50 such branch libraries. There might be a fine reference library at the Lenox site, formed by the combination of the Astor and Lenox collections, but the money might better be put into a system of branch libraries. It is usually said that there are two kinds of libraries — circulating and reference — but there is a third, the library of original materials, reports, transactions, periodicals, etc., from which books are made; this third function, he contended, the New York Public Library need not undertake; it should be, first, a good reference library, and second, a system of circulating branches.

Mr. Richardson, of Princeton, presented the out-of-town view. New York has a duty toward the whole United States. It is the centre to which people are attracted from all parts of the country, and it has a moral responsibility for furnishing apparatus for work. It would be stultifying the aim of the founders to make the library anything less than a great nucleus of learning. It should be established on a broad, generous foundation, and it will appeal to the patriotism and liberality of New York. It should be a potent factor in the advancement of the library interests of the country.

Mr. Stevens suggested that a commercial branch be established downtown for works on transportation, commerce, and the like.

Mr. Bowker called for a word from Brooklyn. Mr. Berry, of the Y. M. C. A., replied that he did not consider the prospect in Brooklyn hopeless; that he believed consolidation would come in time.

Mr. Nelson announced that a meeting of the New York State Library Association would be held in Syracuse the 29th and 30th of May.

In regard to the second subject on the program, bookbinding, Mr. Nelson said that he had not been able to get a bookbinder to present the subject from the side of the trade, but he brought with him the essay on bookbinding presented before the Grolier Club by Mr. William Matthews, from which he read extracts. This sound doctrine was listened to with much interest, and then, by way of contrast, the subject of temporary binding was taken up. Mr. Thomas, of the Methodist Book Concern, was called on to explain his use of manilla rope paper. Mr. Thomas brought with him several samples of pamphlets, those tracts and periodicals

bound in manilla rope paper. The peculiarity of the paper is that it has a grain that gives "joint power" if folded the way of the grain. Fold with the concave side toward the book. Mr. Berry said that he was binding little-used periodicals in manilla rope. He has the volumes sewed and cut at a bindery for 10 cents per volume, and pastes them into manilla rope covers costing about one cent, lettering the title with a pen. At any time desired these can be regularly bound. Mr. Bostwick said they were using manilla rope paper to bind the copies of current periodicals which circulate, the readers greatly preferring them to the regular binders. Mr. Berry brought with him some books to illustrate his new departure in writing the call number directly upon the book itself, in white or black ink, according to color of binding; a single coat of French varnish prevents the ink from being smeared. Mr. Berry reports the plan as giving much greater satisfaction than the paper labels.

Miss Helen R. Trowbridge, of the Lenox Library, and Miss Lucy Ogden, of Newark, were elected members of the club.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE, *Secretary*.

WASHINGTON (D. C.) LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE 13th regular meeting of the Washington Library Association was held at Columbian University on the evening of Feb. 26, at 8 o'clock. The resignation of Mr. Oliver L. Fassig, secretary and treasurer, was received and accepted with expressions of regret. Mr. Fassig is going abroad for a year or more. Mr. F. H. Parsons, of the U. S. Naval Observatory, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy. Miss Isabel Smith was elected a member.

Miss Margaret C. Dyer read a brief but interesting communication upon the history of the free libraries of Manchester, England. She showed how an increased interest in educational matters in 1850 was followed immediately by a desire for the establishment of libraries, museums, and art galleries, as adjuncts to the educational systems. The Manchester library movement started in 1850 with a subscription of £13,000 and 18,000 books. The library was opened in 1852, the ceremonies being attended by Dickens, Thackeray, and Lytton. The library was a success from the start, the first year's operations developing the interest taken by the public in the enterprise. Between 1852 and 1870 the library gradually increased in size, and several branches were established in the outlying districts of the city to accommodate the poorer classes who could not conveniently get to the main building. In 1872, 300,000 books were read by the users of the free libraries. In 1878 it was necessary to abandon the old library building, and the books were moved into the town hall. The result of adopting a more central location was immediately apparent. The next year showed an increase of business threefold. About this time two improvements were made in the service. The library was opened Sunday and a separate reading-room provided

for boys, which immediately became exceedingly popular, bringing the boys in from the streets at night and furnishing entertainment and instruction for them. Branch reading-rooms were next established in several parts of the city and a course of free lectures undertaken. Between 1885 and 1890 the city extended its boundaries and the annexed districts insisted upon having the benefits of the free libraries of the parent city. The libraries have now added coffee taverns, chess and billiard rooms and smoking-rooms to the reading-rooms. In 1894 the visits to the library and the several branches amounted to over 6,000,000, or over 18,000 a day.

Communications were also read from Dr. Herbert Friedenwald, of Philadelphia, on the early editions of the journals of the Continental Congress, and from Dr. H. Carrington Bolton on a check-list of scientific periodicals.

THE Washington Library Association held a regular meeting on March 25.

The first paper, read by Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, was entitled "Some bad features in good books." It consisted in a concise statement of many of the faults which so harass the librarian, cataloger, and bibliographer, and often make the student feel that some books are made to conceal, instead of to reveal knowledge. For example: books having 200 or 300 words on the title-page; books having no preface, index, nor table of contents; books with a short title at the head of each page instead of a line descriptive of the subject-matter; books with incorrect pagination, or with signatures omitted, or signatures wrongly inserted.

Periodicals also came in for a large share of just censure, as they too often change their titles, series, and even sizes, for the convenience of those obliged to handle and preserve them. A flagrant example was cited of a journal issued under three titles, in two sizes, within eight months, and in one volume.

Various other idiosyncrasies of a perplexing kind were mentioned, and the paper was more enjoyed by its hearers than are the experiences of one obtaining the material for such an article. The *Iron Age*, of Pittsburg, was highly commended for publishing recently, on the initial page of an anniversary number, its own pedigree, with fac-similes of each style of title-page used in its several series, dates, etc. May other journals follow the good example thus set!

Dr. Cyrus Adler then gave an informal and interesting talk, relative to some of the "Versions and editions of the Bible." He described the various manuscripts of which copies are in the Smithsonian Institution, some being originals, while others are fac-similes. From these texts the printed books were obtained, and many editions were enumerated; among those mentioned were the American ones extending from the first, which was published in Philadelphia (in two vols.), 1814, to the Revised Version, which was printed as two volumes in the *Seaside Library* only two days after the London edition.

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary*.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

THE 28th regular meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held in the directors' room of the Chicago Public Library, Thursday evening, January 2, at eight o'clock. The following persons were elected members of the club: Messrs. Edson Keith, Marshall Field, and Dr. Simon J. McPherson, trustees of the John Crerar Library; Mr. Franklin MacVeagh, trustee of the Newberry Library; Messrs. E. S. Dreyer and Z. P. Brosseau, directors of the Chicago Public Library, and Messrs. Clement W. Andrews and Anderson H. Hopkins, of the John Crerar Library.

The president then introduced the first speaker of the evening, Mr. Clement W. Andrews, who presented a paper on "Specialization in libraries." Mr. Andrews spoke first of the points which should be considered by any library before deciding on its lines of specialization: 1, the wants of the people to be served, and the means at hand for this service; 2, the number and scope of the libraries already established in the vicinity. He then outlined the plan to be followed in selecting books for the John Crerar Library. According to the decision of the directors the present endowment is never to be impaired for the erection of a building or for any other purpose. Consequently the fund for a permanent building must be accumulated out of the income, leaving only a fraction of it immediately available for library purposes. In general the plans for the development of the library are as follows: To purchase at once 30,000 or 40,000 volumes as a selected library. This will contain the most needed works of reference, the most important treatises and text-books, and a large proportion of the files of the representative scientific journals. After the original purchase it is planned to spend only enough to keep the library absolutely up to date, with generous provisions for subscriptions to periodicals, until the permanent building is erected. Then the accumulation of books of historical value only will be begun, and the collection made as complete as possible. The library in its temporary quarters in the Marshall Field Building will be open to the public as soon as about 20,000 volumes are placed on the shelves.

Mr. Edward L. Burchard, librarian of the Field Columbian Museum, then described the collections of books in that institution. Mr. French, director of the Art Institute, also spoke entertainingly of the books kept as reference library for the students there. After an informal discussion the meeting adjourned.

THE 29th regular meeting of the club was held at the Scoville Institute, Oak Park, Ill., Thursday afternoon, February 6. The members were cordially received by the librarian, Miss Brehre, and were given an opportunity to inspect the building before assembling for the formal meeting. At 3 o'clock the members of the club were called to order by President Gauss in the parlors of the Institute, and the subject for the afternoon's discussion, "Library architecture," was introduced.

In the absence of Mr. Normand S. Patton, his paper was read by Mrs. Dixon. Mr. Patton urged frequent and friendly consultation between librarian and architect as the only means of planning a satisfactory library building. Miss West, of Milwaukee, voiced the same sentiments in a spicy paper on this subject. She laid a large part of the blame for faulty library buildings on the library profession rather than upon the architects—the librarians for not educating the people up to a proper appreciation of their rights, so that they shall *demand* in return for their money convenient, cheerful, and attractive library buildings, instead of the inaccessible and gloomy structures so often the storehouses of books.

Miss West said, in part: "The spread of the knowledge and the cultivation of this public opinion I believe to be the function of the American Library Association, and distinctly within its power. The A. L. A. has been in existence for 20 years and in that time has done many wonderful works. . . . It has evolved the modern idea of a public library and differentiated it utterly from the older conception. It has brought that new public library to the point where it is, in its possibilities at least, the most powerful existing institution for the education of man and the brightening of modern life. But all this has been done in a corner.

You know that the only possible excuse for the levying of a general tax for the support of a public library is that it shall belong to the people and be efficiently administered for their comfort and benefit. You know that the bringing together of people to read and the books to be read is, as a librarian, your only excuse for being. You know that if the people are not hungry to read, do not thirst after knowledge, that it is your business to go out into the highways and hedges and coax them to come in. You know that if you have a vault-like building with a Cerberus or a lion at the entrance (I don't care which beast it is so long as the first impression given is watchfulness not welcome); if the building has long, intricate passages in which the wayfaring man, even if he is not a fool, may lose not only himself but his time and his patience; if your books are stored away in a crypt safely buried from human eyes; if you have any or all the category of ills which are so familiar, you know that it will cripple the work of the library and you know who will suffer and be defrauded. You know every one of these things; but who else does? How long do you think the present state of things would be tolerated if the general public *realized* that illy designed buildings meant curtailed rights for themselves and wasted dollars for their pockets? . . . People in general have no adequate conception whatever of the work of the public library as it is to-day even, and certainly none of its power as an engine of civilization, nor of their own rights as joint owners to see and handle its books."

At the close of Miss West's address Mr. George B. Ferry, architect of the new Milwaukee public library building, presented the subject of library architecture in a practical and interesting manner by exhibiting two plans of

this building, one the suggestive plan of the librarian, showing the problems before the architect, the other the final plan, showing how these problems were solved, adding not only to the architectural beauty of the building, but also to its utility. Mr. Ferry showed himself a master of the artistic side of his profession as well as of its practical details.

THE March meeting of the club, and the closing one of the year, was held in the rooms of the Library Bureau Thursday evening, March 5. In the absence of the president, Mr. Meleney occupied the chair. After the reading of the minutes, Mr. Herbert W. Gates and Miss Mary Remmer were elected members of the club.

The following were elected officers of the club for the year 1896-97: President, Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library; 1st vice-president, A. J. Rudolph, Newberry Library; 2d vice-president, Mrs. Zella A. Dixon, University of Chicago; Secretary, Miss May L. Bennett, Armour Institute of Technology; Treasurer, W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

Mr. W. S. Merrill read a paper on "Library organizations." He urged that more attention be paid by librarians to the study of bibliography, and believed that it was a part of the work of library associations to encourage and popularize its study.

At the close of Mr. Merrill's paper refreshments were served and a pleasant half hour was spent in social intercourse.

MAY L. BENNETT, *Secretary*.

Reviews.

COPINGER, W. A. Supplement to Hain's Repertorium bibliographicum; or, collections towards a new edition of that work. In two parts: The first containing nearly 7000 corrections of and additions to the collations of works described or mentioned by Hain; the second, a list with numerous collations and bibliographical particulars of nearly 6000 volumes printed in the fifteenth century, not referred to by Hain. Part I. London, 1895. 15 + 510 p. O.

As the title indicates, the object of this work is to supplement Hain's well-known bibliography of incunabula. The number of books mentioned by Hain is 16,311, and as the second part of this work will contain over 5700 more, it will be seen that Hain was ignorant of one-quarter of those now known. Mr. Copinger is of the opinion that when all sources of information not yet drawn on have been exhausted "the number of works printed before 1500 may ultimately be found to fall not far short of 30,000, or nearly twice the number of those to be found in the Repertorium bibliographicum."

The present volume contains only additions and corrections to about 7000 titles imperfectly or inaccurately collated by Hain, "supplying in some cases collations, and in others deficiencies where collations have been given, as, for in-

stance, specifying the collation by signatures whether the signatures are printed or not." This is done not by reprinting the corrected titles but by placing the corrections or additions under Hain's number, so that the present volume is of no practical value except in connection with the volumes of Hain. The introductory note explains fully the sources from which information has been drawn and shows the care taken in using it. Where Hain has seen the volume, the variation is inserted incidentally after the authority cited; where Hain has not seen the book he describes, then the description given by the person who has seen it is inserted as a substantial entry. Entries found or books seen by the author, that cannot be identified with any edition mentioned by Hain, will form Part 2 of the present work, which will contain descriptions of about 6000 works not enumerated by Hain. Hain's abbreviations and method generally have been followed. The plan of the second part of the work will be noted when it is published.

The work will be a welcome and a necessary one to all librarians possessing Hain; and it is worth noting here that the number of libraries in this country where both works will be needed in cataloging incunabula is by no means small. With an ever-increasing demand for public libraries has come also an increased interest in the history of book-making and of printing, and few libraries can afford to be without some specimens of the earliest productions of the press.

C. A. N.

DEWEY, Melvil (*ed.*) Papers prepared for the World's Library Congress held at the Columbian Exposition. U. S. Bureau of Education: reprint of chapter 9 of part 2 of the report of the Commissioner of Education for 1892-93 [p. 691-1014.] Washington, Government Printing Office, 1896. O.

It is a most lamentable instance of the inadequacy and confusion of the existing methods of publication of government documents that the present volume, made up of material that was presented to the public in July, 1893, and was then at once available for publication, should make its appearance in April, 1896, nearly three years behind time. Such a delay as this naturally impairs the value of the work, and deprives it, in a measure, of the up-to-date authoritativeness that prompt publication gives. Those who have waited long and impatiently for the body of library doctrine here set forth, will, however, welcome it with a heartiness that hope deferred has not impaired. The papers here included were, with but four or five exceptions, presented to librarians in brief abstracted form in the World's Fair number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, July, 1893. They were originally planned as chapters of a volume on library economy, each chapter dealing with a specific subject and prepared by an authority on that subject; they were thus presented at the World's Library Congress in Chicago; and they now find their final resting-place in the long-promised government volume, which, as a

successor to the Centennial library handbook, will undoubtedly prove of most valuable service as a missionary handbook and library manual. Mr. Dewey's name as editor gives full assurance of the practical and technical value of the papers. They form, in fact, as Commissioner Harris remarks in his introduction, "a unique and valuable treatise on the general subject of the management of libraries," covering the essential details of cataloging, classification, charging systems, regulations for readers, library fittings, furniture and devices, as well as the broader topics of methods of reference work, guiding of children's reading, co-operation with schools, training classes, Sunday opening, etc.

The contents give the best idea of the wide range covered. On the material side of housing, furnishing, etc., we have "Heating, ventilation, and lighting of libraries," by Normand S. Patton; "Fires, protection, insurance," by the late Reuben B. Poole; and "Fixtures, furniture, and fitting," by H. J. Carr. The technical details of library science are covered in "Accession department," by Gardner M. Jones; "Pamphlets," by W. S. Biscoe; "Cataloging," by W. C. Lane; "Classification," by Horace Kephart (including a report from 127 libraries on systems of classification); "Loan systems," by Mary W. Plummer; "Elements of library binding," by D. V. R. Johnston; and "Indexes and indexing," by W. I. Fletcher. Practical matters of administration are included in "Government, constitution, by-laws, and trustees," by H. M. Utley; "Library service," by Frank P. Hill, which includes a most interesting tabulated list of libraries; "Executive department—supervision, building, finances," by F. M. Crunden; and "Branches and deliveries," by G. W. Cole. Relations with the public are considered by Miss James in "Libraries and schools," S. S. Green in "Adaptation of libraries to constituencies," Miss Cutler in "Sunday opening," W. H. Brett in "Regulations for readers," Miss Hewins in "Reading for the young," E. C. Richardson in "Reference-books," and W. E. Foster in "Assistance to readers"; while subjects of general library interest are "Aids to library progress by the government of the U. S.," by A. R. Spofford; "The Los Angeles Public Library Training Class," by Miss Kelso; "School and college libraries," by G. T. Little; "Expert annotation of book titles," by George Iles; "Scrap-books," by W. A. Bardwell; and "Museums, art galleries, and lectures in connection with public libraries," by James Bain.

It will be seen that this gives a most interesting bird's-eye survey of the essentials of library economy, and that each subject is handled by a person who speaks as one having authority. The value of such a consensus of library doctrine can hardly be overestimated; to the smaller libraries and to novices in the profession it will be indispensable, and even those possessing the degree of O.L.S.—which we understand signifies "old library stager"—will find in it most useful hints and valuable suggestions.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

DREHER, Dr. Julius. Dedicatory address. (In *Roanoke Collegian*, Feb., 1896.)

The greater part of this issue of the *Collegian* is devoted to the address delivered by Dr. Julius D. Dreher, president of Roanoke College, at the dedication of the Plumb Memorial Library, Shelton, Ct., on Dec. 4, 1895. Dr. Dreher reviews the value and importance of libraries in a country's development, giving a summary of the library movement of the present day in the United States, and urging its extension to the Southern states, where as yet it has made but slight progress. The address has been widely copied and noted in the Southern press.

FINNEY, B. A. Local bibliographies and the indexing of local newspapers. 8 p.

A paper read at the fifth annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association, Sept. 24-25, 1895, which is now issued in leaflet form; while decidedly local in its scope, it contains useful hints as to the value of indexes of local papers, the items to be indexed, care of newspapers, etc.

LOCAL.

Alameda (Cal.) F. L. Plans have been prepared for a new library building which it is hoped to complete within the year. It is proposed to lease the library lot opposite the city hall to a corporation for 20 years and to erect on it the new building; the corporation is to be composed of citizens of Alameda who will subscribe a building fund of \$20,000. The city trustees will lease the library lot to the corporation for a nominal rental, and the corporation in return will agree to lease to the city the library building at a rental of five per cent. on the cost of construction. At any time during four years the city is to have the right to purchase the building for its cost, and in that event the lease will be cancelled. A large part of the \$20,000 is already subscribed.

Ansonia, Ct. Stokes L. On March 13 an agreement was concluded between the city authorities and Miss Caroline Phelps Stokes, whereby the Stokes Library will be once more opened to the public. Miss Stokes accepts the city's proposition to furnish an annual appropriation of \$1500 for the library's support. She had previously desired an appropriation of \$2500, which the authorities thought the city could not afford. This arrangement will probably bring to a happy conclusion the difficulties between the city magnates and Miss Stokes, which culminated in 1894, when Miss Stokes had the library closed, thinking it not sufficiently appreciated. (*See L. J.* 20:57-58).

Auburn, N. Y. Seymour L. A. On March 16 the members of the association received a letter from Willard E. Case, of New York City, in which he offered to erect a library building, to cost, for site and construction, not less than

\$25,000. The gift is on condition that the association convert the library into a free public library and that the city grant a yearly appropriation for its support. The new building is to be known as the Case Library, in memory of Mr. Case's father. The offer was promptly accepted by the members of the association, the city council has adopted a report recommending an appropriation of \$400 for the current half year, and it is thought that within a few weeks the library will be opened to the public. Mr. Case will also give the trustees the sum of \$2000, to be known as the Case fund, the income to be devoted to the purchase of books on natural science.

Boston P. L. On Sunday, March 15, the experiment of Sunday opening was tried in the branch libraries in East Boston, Charlestown, and South Boston, and proved entirely successful. The attendance at each of the libraries was considerable, and the opening seemed a popular measure.

An interesting historical display has been made in the library of original documents, petitions, drawings, publications, etc., relating to the Boston massacre.

Carbondale (Pa.) P. L. The library was opened to the public on March 2; the circulating department is open each weekday, holidays excepted, from 3 to 6 and from 7 to 9 p.m.

Chicago P. L. (23d rpt.—year ending Mar. 31, '95.) Added 18,485; total 211,157; lost and paid for 389. 25,873 v. were sent to the binderies, at a cost of \$10,235.58. Issued 1,147,862 (fict. 40.85 %, juv. 21.66 %), of which 545,866 were circulated through the 32 delivery stations; ref. use 325,371 v., consulted by 131,750 readers. Visitors to reading-room 614,884, using 631,477 periodicals (av. Sunday and holiday attendance 853). New registration 27,615; cardholders 53,956. Receipts (fund of 1894), \$142,683.86; expenses \$139,068.21.

Books issued through the delivery stations showed an increase of 99,698 over the previous year. "During the winter months it was found necessary to employ an extra wagon, making five in all, to carry books to and from the stations. Principals and teachers of the public schools drew from the delivery stations department, for class use, 419 volumes. The amount expended for salaries of station-keepers and for the transportation of books was \$13,409.22, an average cost of 2.45 cents for each volume circulated."

At the six branch reading-rooms the total attendance was 265,439, an increase of nearly 20 per cent. over the previous year, and 116,922 v. were issued.

The trustees say: "With the completion of our new building, which is expected to be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1896, we shall be enabled to furnish to the public all necessary accommodations, and the city of Chicago will then be possessed of a public library building that every citizen may be proud of." The legislature of 1895 passed a law empowering the mayor and city council of Chicago to levy a tax of

two mills for the year 1896, and to increase the regular tax levy for the public library from one-half mill to one mill per year. "This increase in revenue is an absolute necessity, the proceeds of the two-mill extra tax to be used to complete our new building, and the increase of the regular tax will be needed to maintain our library to the present degree of efficiency, as the expenses of administration naturally must increase with the growth of the library and the growth of our population."

Cleveland (O.) P. L. (27th rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '95.) Added 7884; total 96,921. Issued, home use 595,169 (fict. 40.92 %; juv. 22.33 %), of which 29,383 were issued through the schools; ref. use 46 588; visitors to reference and reading-room 58,200. Receipts \$65,567.09; expenses \$45,039.32.

The president of the board of trustees says: "The free access to our shelves permitted to the patrons of the library continues to work to the entire satisfaction of both patrons and the library management, and there is little apprehension that there will be any demand for a return to the antiquated methods which formerly obtained."

A bill authorizing the issue of \$250,000 bonds for the erection of a new library building passed the state senate on March 25, 1896.

Dover (N. H.) P. L. (13th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 1078; total 20,695. Issued, home use 67,183 (fict. 50 %, juv. 21 %); visitors to reading-room 21,277. New registration 401; total registration 7406. Receipts \$3717.14; expenses \$3714.96.

erie, Pa. At a recent meeting of the board of education on March 6 it was voted to issue bonds to the amount of \$50,000 and to levy a tax of 1¾ mills for library purposes. These measures will net about \$80,000.

Harvard University L. (18th rpt.—year ending Nov., '95.) Added 15,325; total (incl. 12,087 v. in dept. libs.) 464,599; missing 77. Issued, home use, from Gore Hall 81,331; lib. use 23,500; 209 students have made use of "admission-cards" to the shelves. Sunday readers 3634. Registered borrowers 2912.

"19 years ago only 57 % of all the college students used the library. In the last year of the 1667 undergraduates only 328 failed to borrow books, and of this last number 257 drew out 'reserved books,' of which no record was made at the general delivery. This reduces the number of students who made no recorded use of the library to 71 out of a total of 1667." During the year 570 v. were sent to 102 persons or institutions for consultation, under the rules adopted in May, 1895.

The alterations which will largely increase the capacity and facilities of the library were not completed at the close of this report.

Mr. Tillinghast, of the cataloging department, says: "The use of printed cards has on the whole served very well its purpose of getting titles more promptly into the catalog; but we suffer much inconvenience from the work at the printing office being done without regular speed,

owing to interruptions for other classes of college printing. Since the discontinuance of the library *Bulletin* in October, 1894, we have printed our titles in large type, and on galley strips and cards only. We print 50 copies of such strips for various uses."

Iowa library legislation. On Feb. 29 the Iowa legislature passed the library bill introduced under the auspices of the Iowa Library Association. It authorizes trustees of libraries to certify to the city or town councils the amount of levy necessary for the purchase of sites for libraries and for the construction of library buildings, said levy not to exceed three mills; and it is made the duty of the councils to levy the tax so certified.

On March 21 the senate passed a bill appropriating \$4000 for the establishment of travelling libraries under the charge of the state library, the books to be purchased in sets of 50 v. each and loaned to local libraries, clubs, or other organizations for not longer than six months.

Jersey City (N. J.) F. P. L. (Rpt.—year ending Dec. 1, '95.) Added 5117; total 49,100. Bound and rebound 8340. Issued, home use 376,977 (fict. 57.35 %, juv. fict. 23.93 %); ref. use 13,050; visitors to reading-room 99,578 (Sunday use 7418). New registration 3918; total registration 26,660. Receipts \$42,860.22; expenses \$30,942.02.

Of the 376,977 v. circulated, 211,782, or 56.2 % were delivered through the 14 delivery stations; 22,307 v. have been issued on teachers' cards. The third supplement to the finding-list was published in August, including all additions from Jan., 1893, to April 26, 1895. "The entire shelf-list has been rewritten on cards, thus making a subject catalog of the library arranged according to the decimal system, and consisting of about 35,000 entries. We have also prepared a subject list of countries, comprising history, and travels and description, which will probably be printed and issued in book form when opportunity offers."

The library's collection of "school classics" has been increased by 12 new sets, giving a total of over 1600 v. of first-class juvenile literature which each month is "drawn from the library by the children of the public schools through the medium of their teachers. These volumes are used for home reading and constitute a legitimate part of our circulation."

The library trustees have purchased a site for a new library building, comprising the brown-stone dwelling formerly the home of Governor Abbott, a brown-stone dwelling adjoining, and a lot in the rear facing Jersey avenue. This gives a fine site in a convenient and central location; the price paid was \$31,000. The trustees intend to build on the vacant lot and alter and connect the two buildings, thus making a suitable building without much expense. They have accumulated a building fund of about \$35,000.

Kankakee (Ill.) P. L. The library, which was established by popular subscription, was opened to the public on March 21.

Kansas City (Mo.) P. L. The bursting of a patent water-filter in one of the rooms of the board of education on Feb. 23 resulted in considerable damage to the library, which is located on the floor below. Over 700 juvenile books and 4000 reference-books were badly damaged, and it was found necessary to close the library for two days during repairs. No juvenile books were issued for several days, and the work of the reference department has been seriously impeded.

Kennett Square, Pa. Saturday, March 7, was the 100th anniversary of the fox-hunt described by Bayard Taylor in his "Story of Kennett," and it was celebrated in a unique way and for the benefit of a library. The hunt was reproduced and the characters of the novel were clad in the historic costume of a century ago. 200 hounds, representing 35 hunts, and 400 riders, some of whom have passed the age of three-score and ten, took part in the hunt, to the great delight of from 4000 to 6000 spectators, who came from several states. According to the novel, the dinner of a century ago was held in the Unicorn Inn, but this time it was held in the Borough Hall. The proceeds of the dinner are about \$400. This money was offered to the Bayard Taylor Memorial Library, but, according to the *Philadelphia Record*, "the managers of that institution refused to accept money they deemed gained 'by ungodly means.'" The money was then given to the Union Library in Kennett.

Kentucky State L. Commission. A bill for the establishment of a state library commission is pending in the Kentucky legislature. It provides for the appointment by the governor of five commissioners who shall serve during 1896, without salaries, and shall make a careful study of libraries in other states, extending their inquiries into organization, maintenance, legislation, state systems, educational results of the work of libraries, and any other matters pertaining to the modern library movement. Not later than January 15, 1897, the commission shall make a report in writing to the governor, embodying the results of their inquiry and recommending such plans and legislation as, in their judgment, will best promote the educational interests of the people of the state through libraries.

The bill was prepared by the alumnae of the Louisville (Ky.) high school, who have interested many prominent persons in the state in its passage.

Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L. (7th rpt. — year ending Dec. 30, '95.) Added 2074; total 41,600. Issued, home use 371,638 (fict. 218,510); lib. use 118,603; reference-room readers 51,216. New registration 4266; total card-holders 22,223. Receipts \$23,076.21; expenses \$17,934.90.

There have been 17,416 v. circulated through the city schools, and "these figures could be doubled had we books sufficient to supply the demand." The president of the board of directors makes energetic statement of the need of more money and more room.

Mt. Vernon (N. Y.) P. L. On March 23 the trustees received from the state board of Regents the charter incorporating the library.

New Jersey State L. Commission. A bill authorizing the governor to appoint a state library commission of five persons has passed the legislature. It provides that no salaries shall be paid the members of the commission, but \$500 shall be allowed for clerical and traveling expenses. The commission is authorized to recommend the appropriation, for the benefit of any community that may raise any sum under \$100 for a library, of an equal amount from the state treasury, but only to recommend it. No appropriation can be made without a specific act of the legislature for that purpose. Cities of the first and second class are exempted from this provision.

New York City libraries. In the March number of *New York Railroad Men*, issued by the Railroad Branch Y. M. C. A., New York — which, by the way, is a "library number" — there is a list of all New York libraries containing 5000 or more v. The street address of and number of v. in each are given; 40 libraries are listed.

New York City library map. In the March number of the *Book-buyer*, Mr. A. W. Bostwick outlines a plan for a proposed "library map" of New York City which shall show the distribution of free circulating libraries and what divisions of the city are best served by the existing libraries. The map is being prepared at the Free Circulating Library and will show the constituency reached by that library and its branches, by the Aguilar Library and its branches, and by the various "settlement" club and parish libraries. The process consists in "making a dot on the map at the exact place of residence of every user of the library as shown by the registration books, a different color being used for each branch. Enough has been done to indicate that when completed it will show that the vast body of those who draw from libraries live within a comparatively small radius from the libraries they patronize — a fact which amply justifies the existence of a large number of small branches instead of a smaller number of large ones." Mr. Bostwick requests aid in making the map, either by contribution of work or money. "When completed it will contain probably not far from 50,000 separate dots, each of which involves looking up an address and locating it on the map with the aid of a directory."

N. Y. F. C. L. (16th rpt., for 1895.) Added 4925; total 81,785. Issued, home use 654,451; Sunday use 47,047. Reading-room attendance 181,153. New registration 9914; total registration 67,562. Receipts \$43,191.86; expenses \$40,904.89.

The circulation, while not largely increased over the previous year, shows a steady growth in the six libraries; the chief events in the records of each library are given, and there is a general summary of the present condition of the entire "plant." "The greatest present need of

the library is the more complete unification of the different branches, to the end that those who make use of it may regard themselves rather as members of the entire library than of any one branch, and may be able to avail themselves of our whole stock of books." To this end Mr. Bostwick advises a union card catalog, general lists and bulletins, telephone connection between the libraries, uniform numbering, etc.

He gives the following interesting sketch of the work proposed with the schools: "To the end that the scope of the library as an educational institution may be widened, both in itself and also in connection with the public schools of the city, all the aid in our power has been given to the teachers in the schools by furnishing them with catalogs and bulletins, by making lists of books on special subjects in the curriculum, and by lending books in lots of 50 or 60 to any teacher who will undertake to become responsible for their proper use by the scholars, and their safe return, with a statement of the number circulated. We have, therefore, made a schedule of subjects adapted to the course in each of the eight grammar grades, and are preparing lists of these subjects at each of our branches. The schedule was made originally in consultation with a teacher in one of the grammar schools, and represents an eight years' graded course of reading. Typewritten copies of the schedule have been sent by each librarian-in-charge to the schools in the vicinity of her branch, with a statement of what it is proposed to do; and teachers have been requested to state whether lists of books on all or any of the subjects in the schedule would be of use in their work, and have been encouraged to make suggestions of all kinds. We are now in communication with the Public Education Association regarding a systematic plan for circulating books in the public schools, and hope that the result will be of great benefit both to our work and to theirs."

New York F. C. L. for the Blind. The association in charge of the Free Circulating Library for the blind, incorporated in June, 1895, will now make its headquarters in the parish-house of St. Agnes' Chapel in West 91st street, where a room has been offered it free of charge. It will be quite distinct from the parish library, however. A part of the collection of books for the blind owned by the association is cared for by the Bruce Memorial branch of the N. Y. F. C. L.

New York, East Side House, Webster F. C. L. Total 5745. The library during 1895, the second year of its existence, circulated 20,669 v. There are 3265 registered readers, of whom 93 per cent. are under 16 years of age. As to nationality, 62 % are of German parentage, 14 % American, 11 % Irish, three % Italian, three % French, two % Polish, and one % Dutch.

New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations. On March 25 a public hearing was given to the library trustees at the mayor's office, to present their plans for the organization and location of the library. An address setting forth the decision of the trustees on these

points was read by G. L. Rives, secretary of the board. It stated the facts as to New York's low rank among "library" cities, and urged the city authorities to appropriate a sufficient sum (\$2,500,000) for an adequate building and to give to the trustees the "reservoir site," on Fifth avenue between 40th and 42d streets, for the future home of such a building.

The trustees said, in part: "It is plain that the city of New York should have a broad and comprehensive library system, adequate to furnish recreation and instruction to all. It is equally plain that while the means at the command of this corporation are entirely inadequate to undertake the whole work, nevertheless its existing organization and the resources at its command offer to the public an opportunity to secure at a minimum cost such a public library system as shall be in keeping with the importance, dignity, and magnitude of the city. If the present opportunity be lost, long delay will ensue in establishing any such system; the expense must be enormously increased; and as this corporation will have entered on its work, within the limits possible to it with its presents resources, a new library will, to a considerable extent, again create the very evils from which the several organizations, by their consolidation, have sought to escape.

"If the city of New York will furnish a proper site, and provide the means to erect thereon a suitable building for the purposes of the New York Public Library, excluding for the present the requirements of branch libraries or delivery stations other than those now controlled by the Free Circulating Library, then the New York Public Library can, through the sale of its present sites, obtain such an addition to its funds as will justify it in providing for the circulation of books from its main building. If further funds can be supplied from private benefaction or otherwise sufficient to establish and maintain an adequate number of branches for circulation, it is certain that the city of New York can and will have a free public library on the broadest and most comprehensive plan.

"Should the suggestions of the trustees be favorably received, no site within the control of the city could accomplish the ends in view as well as that of the reservoir upon Fifth avenue, between 40th and 42d streets. The site is an ideal one for such a building. It is to-day the most central and easily accessible spot on the island, and will be rendered even more so by new means of communication. And not only does this site command these advantages at the present time, but it is impossible to foresee a time when it cannot retain a like superiority. At no point further north can any similar convergence of public modes of travel ever be anticipated. On this site it will be possible to erect a library building, dignified, ample in size, visible from all sides, with uninterrupted light, free from all danger of fire, in no respect encroaching upon the existing Bryant Park, and which will be an ornament to the city. The park area would indeed be increased by substituting a library building for the reservoir. The reservoir measures 455 feet by 420. A library building

350 feet by 300 would offer all the accommodations which the most sanguine would probably think it wise at present to provide; and even this would leave a margin of more than 100 feet on the avenue and more than 50 feet on each side street, to be laid out with grass and shrubbery. The city would then have no quarter more inviting. The library would in effect bring the park to Fifth avenue, while reciprocally the park would add enormously to the attractiveness, security, and usefulness of the library."

The mayor approved of the site desired, but decided to postpone the matter of an appropriation. He suggested that the trustees first obtain from the legislature the right to use the reservoir site, and then apply to the city for funds if necessary.

At a meeting of the trustees on March 11, the title of Dr. J. S. Billings was changed from "Superintendent-in-chief of the consolidated libraries" to "Director of the consolidated libraries."

New York Mercantile L. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 6113; total 251,962. Issued, home use, 179,564 (fict., Eng., 52.37 %, other languages 4.56 %), of which 6612 were delivered by messengers; reading-room attendance 28,181. New members 1222; total membership 5099. Receipts \$26,970.68; expenses \$25,822.53.

New York University Club L. (Rpt.) Added 974; total 12,866; spent for books and binding \$1948.48. A list of books desired is included in the report.

New York University of the City of. At a meeting of the state board of regents on March 19 the name of the University of the City of New York was changed to New York University.

A description, with plans, of the new library building of the university appears in the *Engineering Record* of March 28, 1896 ($\frac{3}{4}$ col. il.).

New York Yacht Club L. According to the report of the library committee of the N. Y. Yacht Club, there are now in the club's library "over 3600 bound books, charts, maps, and photographs, not counting duplicates of framed pictures. The chart table and sailing directions in the library afford information sufficient for the planning of cruises to any part of the world. Special attention has been given to the close relations which exist between American and Mediterranean yacht clubs, and the charts requisite for cruising in that inland sea have been added to the collection."

Newark (N. J.) P. L. (7th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '95.) Added 5914; total 49,691. Issued 330,810 (fict. 78.3 %), of which 44,570 were delivered through the seven delivery stations; no record of ref. use is kept; visitors to ref. dept. 20,926. New registration 4598; total registration 49,108. Receipts \$47,003.91; expenses \$40,651.79.

"It should be noted that juvenile fiction is included in the general class 'fiction,' and that if a separation were made the difference would be quite marked."

In April, 1895, the two-book system was introduced. "Only a small percentage of the increase in the circulation can be traced to this source, but whatever it may be it is in favor of the better class of books."

"As a matter of convenience to persons using the writing-table, paper and envelopes were placed on sale at the reading-room desk. Only about cost price is charged, yet the receipts amounted to \$3.75."

On March 17, 1896, the bill authorizing the issue of \$300,000 worth of bonds for the purpose of purchasing a site and erecting a library building became a law. The trustees are now considering several favorable sites, the difficulty being to obtain a site large enough in the central part of the city that will be within their means; they do not expect to pay more than \$100,000 for the site, thus leaving \$200,000 for the erection of the building.

Northampton (Mass.) Forbes L. (1st rpt. — term ending Nov. 30, '95.) Total 31,027, of which about 28,000 were bought at a cost of \$33,000. During the 129 days the library was open 8924 v. were issued for home use (fict. 65 %); 2115 v. were issued for lib. use; and 1476 persons were registered. Receipts, book fund \$52,218.57; expenses \$34,540.86; aid fund (salaries, etc.), \$11,204.81; expenses \$11,179.74.

The trustees in their report give an account of the founding and organization of the library, and Mr. Cutter, in his interesting report, describes the work of bookbuying, arrangement, and administration since his appointment as librarian in 1894. On October 4 of that year he began work "with a janitor and three assistants in the library, which then was just out of the builders' hands, not having even a chair or a table, nothing in fact within its walls but unpacked boxes of books." The four assistants allowed by the city council were chosen in October in competitive examination. "Several were deterred by the pay offered (\$5 a week for eight and a half hours' daily service), but from the remainder four were finally selected, two of them graduates of Smith College. At the beginning they were all novices, but here the wisdom of choosing highly educated girls was manifest. They were easily instructed in their new duties, they took hold with interest, and made rapid progress."

The library was open for reference use from the very beginning, and on July 1, 1895, it was opened for home use, when only a part of its contents was cataloged. The inadequate force of workers and the early opening of the library necessitated various simplifications of method. Among them Mr. Cutter mentions "(1) we have kept no accession-book, our bills filed by dates of entry are the record of our purchases and their prices. This I believe to be a real economy, for the questions that this method leaves unanswered are questions whose answers are not worth their cost. (2) We have kept no list of books added further than the marked catalogs, prospectuses, and lists from which the orders were made, trusting to memory to avoid duplicating. This was not done from economy

but from necessity, but it has on the whole been a saving, especially as the duplicates which it led to our getting have been in large measure exchanged. (3) We have as yet cataloged only a third of our books." This, however, Mr. Cutter considers the reverse of economy, as it leads to much loss of time on the part of the attendants, though this loss is minimized as far as possible by careful classification and alphabetic arrangement of the books in each class.

"We are putting the catalog (so far as made, 9000 volumes) before the public in the Rudolph books, which I chose for their double merit; they have both the superiority of the card catalog over the book catalog—that of allowing a book's title to be inserted in its proper place the very day the book is received—and the superiority of the book catalog over the card catalog—that of presenting many titles to the reader at once and requiring no provoking and wearisome manipulation in use. They have been universally praised by our readers."

For charging books the card pocket system devised by Miss Nina E. Browne, of the Library Bureau (see L. J. 20: 168) has been adopted. Rather unusual privileges are granted to readers. Besides the usual pocket for regular two-weeks' use of books, additional pockets are issued (1) for a work in a foreign language, (2) for special study of a subject, on which six or more volumes can be taken out at once and kept till desired by other readers, (3) for vacation use, with extended privileges of number of v. and length of time, (4) for magazines, and (5) a two-book pocket on which one book of fiction and one of other reading may be taken.

Philadelphia Civic Club. The art department of the Philadelphia Civic Club opened a "picture library" at the College Settlement on March 25. The start was made with 84 pictures, mostly large photographs, and the library will be conducted on essentially the same as a circulating library of books. One picture may be taken home for two weeks, and it may be renewed for two weeks more; but no picture may be kept more than a month. Each picture is neatly framed and covered with glass to protect it from injury. On the back is a printed description of the picture.

Philadelphia L. Co. (Rpt. for 1894-95). Added 4114; total 179,512. Issued 44,527; no. visitors 89,023. Receipts \$15,076.21; expenses \$14,639.30.

Providence (R. I.) Athenæum L. (60th rpt. — year ending Sept. 23, '95.) Added 1455; total 56,189. Issued, home use, 45,369 (fict. 27,625). Receipts \$8110.45; expenses \$7605.36.

A list of the accessions to the library from Sept. 1, 1893, to Aug. 31, 1895, is appended to the report.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. Book Notes, a fortnightly publication issued in Providence by S. S. Rider, contained in its issues for March 7 and March 21 articles criticising the library, chiefly for the percentage of fiction in its circulation. In the issue of March 7 it is stated that "75 per cent., three-quarters of all the books

taken by teachers and scholars, and everybody else, from this library, consist of the thoroughly vicious modern novel." In the number for March 21 it is admitted that "it was in truth too strong to say that three-quarters of all books taken out consisted of the vicious modern novel. All modern novels are not vicious, but a large proportion are." An analysis of the percentage of issue in the various classes is then given, and of the circulation of fiction it is said: "This is indeed a terrible showing; but it is a showing for which neither the directors of the library nor the employees are to blame; it is the fault and disgrace of the readers alone."

Rutland (Vt.) F. L. A. (6th rpt.) Added 804; total 9724. Issued 56,391 (school use 2232). Receipts \$5422.24; expenses \$3,038.18.

The president of the association, Mrs. Julia C. R. Dorris, says:

"Many of you can go back with me in thought to that dull winter day in January, 1886, when a band of 60 women met and resolved that Rutland should have a public library. As I look back over the long path with all its perils and quicksands, I wonder that we ever dared to undertake it. It is an old saying that 'He who knows nothing fears nothing.' And I must confess it applied to us. In April of 1886 I went to Boston in search of light, and to consult librarians. One of the most noted of them all said, encouragingly, 'Don't think of starting a library unless you are sure of a yearly income of at least \$5000.' 'But,' I said, 'we want to hire a little room, put up some shelves, buy as many books as we can pay for, and put them in circulation. That is our idea of the beginning of a library. Can't we do that safely on less than \$5000 a year?' He shrugged his shoulders, more than intimating that we could not, that any such attempt would be a failure.

"We started this library on an assured income of—nothing. Look around you to-day and see if it has been a failure, though it has not even now an income of \$5000. But we have 9724 books shelved; we have a librarian-in-chief of whose record at home and abroad we are justly proud. As for our circulation, it speaks for itself. A prominent librarian, comparing our last year's report with every other report to which he had access, declares that our circulation is larger in proportion to the staff employed than that of any library of which he knows.

"What is the crying need of this library to-day? It is for more room. We need the whole lower floor of this building for reading-rooms; the main room for the general public, the small rooms in the wings for special students and for the use of the teachers in the public schools and their classes. Every drawer, every nook, every cranny at our disposal is full. We have no room for art treasures that are slowly accumulating and the choicer books that are out of place in the stacks. We are compelled to decline offers of valuable maps and books from Washington and elsewhere, simply because we have no room to house them. During the hours when the reading-rooms are most frequented, readers are often compelled to sit shoulder to shoulder—

which is conducive neither to close study or to good temper. What can we do about this? Which one of our rich men will start a building fund?"

Salem, Va. Roanoke College L. (p. 34-36 of college catalog, 1894-95.) "The college library, arranged in the handsome Bittle memorial building and the annex, contains about 20,000 volumes, a number of valuable books having been recently added. It is already one of the most valuable, for its size, in the South, and is being annually increased by donations and purchases. There are many rare works in the collection, and many books from 200 to 400 years old, the oldest being a Latin Bible, printed on vellum in 1477. The library is designed principally for the use of the faculty and college officers, resident graduates, and the students of the institution."

Scranton (Pa.) P. L. (5th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 2548; total 25,294. Issued, home use 149,769 (fict. 79.83 %); lib. use 3448; no record of general reference use is kept. New registration 4485; card-holders 7222. Receipts \$10,730.94; expenses \$10,729.17.

The president of the board of trustees asks for an increased appropriation for the library's support.

Tacoma (Wash.) City L. When its beautiful suite of rooms in the new city hall was given to the library in 1893, as the number of books at that time did not require so much room, a large and indeed disproportionate space was given up to the newspaper reading-room. A change of occupancy on a lower floor of the city hall has just enabled the library to dispose conveniently of this embarrassment, and its book-rooms now occupy the whole length of the building and are handsomely fitted up. Its stock of books, now numbering over 4000, have grown four-fold in four years, and its delivery of volumes for home reading, before noticed in the JOURNAL, shows that every book goes out on an average 13 times a year.

The revised city charter, to be voted on in April, gives to the library a fund derived from a special quarter-mill tax, which will about double the present income.

University of Pennsylvania L. The Bechstein Germanic library of the university was formally opened on the afternoon of March 22. An audience of some 500 persons was present and a series of addresses were made, mostly in German, by Joseph G. Rosengarten, G. F. Baer, Dr. Adolph Spaeth, and others. The nucleus of the collection consists of the library of the late Prof. Reinhold Bechstein, of the University of Rostock. This has been supplemented by a number of valuable additions, and comprises, in its present form, about 15,000 v. and 3000 pamphlets. It deals with German philology, literature, antiquities, and folk-lore, covering Gothic, Norse, old high German and middle high German literature, language, and dialects, and is rich in standard and critical editions of German writers of all periods, in reference works, and

in library series. Two special features of the collection are a full series of periodicals relating to Germanic studies, consisting of about 50 complete sets of reviews and publications of learned societies, and the unique "Hand-apparat" of Professor Bechstein, containing about 3000 pamphlets treating of German philology and literature.

Utah library legislation. On March 9 the legislature passed a bill providing that city councils of cities may pass an ordinance levying a tax for the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries.

Vinalhaven (Me.) P. L. Total 2150; issued 10,540, an increase of 1689 over the previous years. Receipts and expenses \$598.23.

Virginia libraries in colonial times. The William and Mary College *Quarterly Historical Magazine* began in January, 1894, the publication of a series of articles on the early libraries of Virginia. The articles are based on the examination of thousands of wills and inventories, and they show that the colony contained libraries with as many as 4000 volumes. 76 libraries have been described thus far, *i.e.* to vol. 4, Jan., 1896.

Washington, D. C. Congressional L. On March 25 Gen. T. L. Casey, in charge of the construction of the new library building, died suddenly of heart failure. Gen. Casey was superintending engineer of public buildings and grounds in the District of Columbia, and in October, 1889, was placed in charge of the building of the new library. Mr. B. R. Green, for years past Gen. Casey's chief assistant, has been appointed to succeed him in charge of the construction of the building, at a salary of \$5000 a year. By its prompt action in this appointment Congress has earned the approval of the library world. Mr. Green has acted as General Casey's executive and assistant from the commencement of the undertaking, and the details are known to no one as to him. This appointment will no doubt insure the completion of the building for its designated use in the shortest possible time, which will probably be within a year.

Washington (D. C.) F. L. The bill authorizing a municipal appropriation for the support of the library was passed by the house on March 9, with an amendment assessing the cost of maintenance on the District and exempting government property. On March 11 the senate refused to concur in that amendment and the bill was laid over for conference by representatives of the two houses.

West Palm Beach, Fla. A building for the purposes of a public library and reading-room has been given to the town by C. J. Clark, of Pittsburg, and a public subscription for 100 shares of stock at \$10 each has been started to defray expenses of furnishing and maintenance; 80 shares have already been subscribed.

Wisconsin State Hist. Soc. L., Madison. (43d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 4534, pm. 2441; total 88,533, pm. 85,737.

In regard to the catalog of the society's newspaper collection Secretary Thwaites says:

"A year ago we promised an early issue of the catalog of our bound newspaper files, which has been in the making for some two years past, but many things have tended to prevent the early completion of this important work. As the first of its kind to be issued by any library, it has involved far greater labor than was at first anticipated. Many vexatious problems have arisen during its progress, and much time has been required in the preparation of the historical notes with which the catalog will be enriched; but it is believed that the result will justify the energy expended on the undertaking, and that the volume will take rank as one of the most important bibliographical publications yet issued by the society. The work will be divided into four parts: part 1 is a geographical arrangement; (a) the United States, alphabetically by states, and alphabetically by cities within the states; (b) foreign countries, alphabetically; in this part are given full bibliographical descriptions and historical notes. Part 2 will be a chronological arrangement, by decades, with abbreviated titles. Part 3 will contain a classification of the newspapers, by politics or other specialties—an important feature, especially to students of history and economics. Part 4 will be an alphabetical index of the editors and publishers mentioned in the volume."

A considerable portion of the report is devoted to an account of the plans for the new building of the society. "The importance of housing, as soon as may be, the society's priceless possessions in a fire-proof building, which shall in size be ample for future growth, in appointments be fully equipped for its important educational work, and in architectural form be consonant with the dignity of the state, is one which each passing year the more strongly emphasizes. Valuable as our collections are to the people of Wisconsin, attractive as they are to visiting scholars, our lack of room and of the mechanical conveniences common to other libraries of reputation, our slender staff, our meagre funds, are hard facts which press closely for consideration; we are indeed sorely embarrassed by our narrow resources of space, tools, and means; and the considerable growth which we are each year enabled to report, together with the greatly increased demands upon our shelves, render this poverty the more conspicuous. With the opening of the new building, we shall need and will no doubt meet with more liberal treatment from the state; we shall certainly at once receive nobler gifts to library, gallery, and museum, from individuals who now withhold their bounty because of the unsafe character and limited accommodations of the capitol, in which we now are; our annual accessions, now deemed large, will then be greatly increased; and the society, at last equipped for its work, will surely enter upon a still broader field of public usefulness, and attain successes therein which were but dimly seen, if seen at all, by the founders who, ranked in their day as visionaries, built better than they knew."

FOREIGN.

Clerkenwell (Eng) P. L. (8th rpt.) Added 843; total 14,882. Issued, home use 110,611; ref. use 28,054 (Sunday use 1893); news-room attendance 417,827. No. borrowers 3858.

The circulation of the year is the largest on record since the opening of the library, a fact attributed by Mr. Brown to the open-access system. "Out of this total of 110,611 volumes issued, not a single loss has to be recorded, while one of the three books mentioned in the 1894 report as having been taken away has since been recovered. The total loss in the 20 months during which the open-access system has been at work, out of 183,160 issues, has therefore been two small books of the net value of 3 s. The commissioners feel justified in recording their gratification at the unqualified success of the attempt to bring the people of Clerkenwell into close contact with their own books. Everything has worked smoothly in connection with the system, and no complaints have been received. Owing to the introduction of many improvements in the details of arrangement, particularly as regards classification and marking, the majority of the borrowers now use the library with as much facility as they would their own shelves."

A loan exhibition of pictures and art metal-work was on view throughout the year.

London. Hampstead P. Ls. It has been decided to purchase for the libraries the library of the late Prof. Henry Morley, who lived long in Hampstead and accomplished much of his literary work in the parish. It is intended to keep the collection intact so far as possible, under the name of the Morley Memorial Library. As might be expected, it contains a fine selection of standard authors, both English and foreign, and is rich in first editions of the 16th and 17th centuries. It also includes a good Shakespeare collection. It consists altogether of about 8000 volumes; and the valuation price is £806, towards which £100 has been contributed by subscription.

London. High Holborn P. L. The public library established in High Holborn by the commissioners of the district was opened by the lord mayor on March 5. The building contains a main library-room, newspaper-room, magazine-room, and librarian's and work rooms.

MONROE, W. S. Educational museums and libraries of Europe. (In *Educational Review*, April, 1896. 11: 374-391.)

There are in all 35 educational museums in Europe. The library of the Musée Pédagogique at Paris numbers 50,000 carefully selected volumes, representing every language. Through the circulating department of this library books are forwarded and returned, postage free, as government matter, to all parts of the republic. The pedagogical library at Leipzig numbers nearly 70,000 volumes, but it is not so carefully selected as the one at Paris. 100,000 volumes a year are drawn from the pedagogical library at St. Petersburg.

Ontario (Can.) free libraries (p. 250-251 of rpt. of minister of education for Ontario for 1895). There are now 12 free libraries in the province, as follows: Berlin, 5496 v., 2640 readers, 15,566 circulation, \$1502 income; Brantford, 12,655 v., 2260 readers, 73,270 circulation, \$2877.65 income; Chatham, 4186 v., 1106 readers, 17,623 circulation, \$1754.48 income; Guelph, 8204 v., 1008 readers, 49,675 circulation, \$1944.40 income; Hamilton, 21,639 v., 10,762 readers, 213,628 circulation, \$14,102.89 income; Ingersoll, 2713 v., 700 readers, 15,740 circulation, \$811.36 income; Simcoe, 3743 v., 501 readers, 10,624 circulation, \$886.25 income; St. Catherine's, 1561 v., 2100 readers, 22,650 circulation, \$1544.47 income (this library was destroyed by fire on Jan. 14, 1895); St. Thomas, 6267 v., 1182 readers, 21,610 circulation, \$1831.83 income; Toronto, 89,248 v., 42,788 readers, 535,729 circulation \$33,630 income; Waterloo, 5306 v., 850 readers, 7811 circulation, \$650.93 income; Windsor, 4245 v., 1336 readers, 16,771 circulation, \$4060.04 income.

Paris. Bibliothèque Nationale. The library of the late Ernest Renan has been purchased by Mme. Calmann Levy, the widow of Renan's publisher, and presented by her to the Bibliothèque Nationale, where it will be kept in a special room. The collection consists of about 10,000 volumes, and is especially rich in Oriental and Biblical works.

SCHMIDT, F. G. G. German manuscripts in the Library of Mairingen in Bavaria. (In Johns Hopkins University circulars. Feb., 1896. 15 : 40.) 3 col.

This collection of mss. numbers about 1500.

Sydney, N. S. W. It is intended to form a library association for Australasia, on lines similar to those of the American Library Association. Mr. H: C. Anderson, of the Public Library of New South Wales, Sydney, is one of the promoters of the project.

Toronto, Ontario, Can. Education Dept. L. (p. 296-300 of rpt. of minister of education of Ontario for 1895). Added by purchase 430; total not given. Issued 7334, an increase of 730 over 1894.

The revised catalog of educational works and general literature in the library is nearly ready for press. A new catalog of the collection of Canadian books is needed, as this collection has grown largely since the first catalog was published in 1890.

"Our collection of school reports and kindred documents is now very large and varied." It includes the reports of the London school board from 1879 to 1894, those of the U. S. Bureau of Education, and school reports of the individual American states.

Toronto, Ontario, Law Soc. of Upper Canada L. (Rpt.) Added 1301; total 28,761; attendance during the 222 evenings the library was open 3856. Expenditures \$7730.21.

A western addition to the library, with shelf-room for about 11,200 v., was completed during

the long vacation, and many books have been transferred to it.

THOMPSON, Sir E. Maunde. The British Museum. (In *The Leisure Hour*, Feb. and March, 1896.) pp. 220-29 and 302-10. il.

The first of these articles is on the origin and growth of the Museum; the second describes the departments. Both are very interesting. It may not be generally known that the first funds—nearly £100,000—were raised by means of a public lottery. 100,000 tickets at £3 each were issued and £200,000 were allotted as prizes. The act that provided for the founding of the Museum provided for the lottery.

PRACTICAL NOTES.

BOOK COVERING MACHINE, described in *Official Gazette* of the U. S. Patent Office, March 3, 1896. 74 : 1263, 2¼ col. il.

A SIMPLE SHELVING IMPROVEMENT. — Willis K. Stetson, librarian of the New Haven (Ct.) Free Public Library, writes: "We have lately put into use a simple device which gives us so much satisfaction that we recommend it to others. It is simply a box with top and bottom removed. Placing it in the middle of our ordinary shelves, we divide the shelf into three sections. Heavy tall books are thus rendered entirely manageable and one of the greatest difficulties in the treatment of large books on a movable system of numbering is entirely removed at little cost."

Gifts and Bequests.

Canton (O.) P. L. By the settlement of a lawsuit, and the making of a new will by Mrs. Aultman, this library will ultimately come into the possession of the sum of \$25,000.

Hartford, Ct. Watkinson L. By the death of Mrs. Abbott, who was one of the Watkinson family, a further distribution of money will be made, which will bring about \$7000 additional to the library.

Hockessin, Del. By the will of the late Levis A. Lamborn, of Mill Creek, Del., the sum of \$1000 is bequeathed to Taylor S. Mitchell, M.D., Enos Hooper, and Daniel W. Taylor, in trust, for the purpose of "adding in the endowment of a library, reading-room and lecture-room in Hockessin, to be named after those who contribute thereto, or such other name as the trustees select." The sum is to be used "to promote useful and liberal reading for the community" in any way the trustees can best advise, until sufficient money is raised to make more effective provision.

Omaha, (Neb.) P. L. F: F. Manderson, ex-U. S. Senator from Nebraska, at the expiration of his second term claimed the full quota of documents due him for his entire term of 12 years. From these he picked out the most valuable and sent them to the Omaha Public Library. They were carefully sorted in the basement of the library building. Invitations were then sent to all the public and university libraries in the state, and to many private col-

lectors of public documents, to visit the collection and select what might be needed to complete their several files. The offer has been accepted and the books are rapidly going where they are most needed in different parts of the state.

Owatonna, Minn. The board of trade has appointed a committee to take action on the Hunnewell library offer, whereby Mrs. Hunnewell proposed to give the city \$10,000 for a library building provided the city will raise an additional \$10,000 for the building and \$5000 for its furnishing.

Rockville (Ct.) P. L. The corporators of the association voted in January to accept a bequest of \$12,600 from the late George Maxwell and \$10,000 from the town of Vernon. It was also voted to open the library in temporary rooms in a few weeks.

The library, according to the charter granted by the legislature in 1893, is for the benefit of Rockville people and the adjoining towns and villages, especially Ellington.

Schoolcraft, Mich. James Bates, of Brooklyn, N. Y., has offered \$1000 to the Ladies' Library Club of Schoolcraft, Mich., providing they will raise an equal amount, for the erection of a library building.

Somers (Ct.) P. L. Mrs. William Whitney, of New York City, has given the library \$500 for the purchase of books, and has offered to give \$3000 for a new building, provided a site is furnished for the purpose.

Thompsonville, Ct. A check for \$500 was received on March 11 from Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes, of New York City, by the local committee which is working to establish a public library.

Topeka, Kan. W. K. Gillett, retiring general auditor of the Santa Fé R.R., has pledged \$1000 as a donation to the Topeka Free Library. The library now has a fund of \$9000 created by gifts from generous people.

Westminster, Vt. The little town of Westminster, with a population of about 1200, will within a few years receive \$100,000 for the erection and maintenance of a free library. The bequest was made by Isaac Butterfield, who died 22 years ago, leaving property in Boston valued at \$50,000 in the hands of trustees, the income to be used for the benefit of his wife and two sons, and at their decease to revert to the town of Westminster and be devoted to library purposes. The widow died some years ago, one of the sons is dead, and the other is in an insane asylum at Worcester, Mass., so that the townspeople are already looking forward to the founding of the library. The estate now amounts to over \$100,000.

Youngstown (Pa.) P. L. will receive from the estate of the late Charles Dayton Arms, millionaire, the sum of \$5000 for the purchase of books. This is the only charitable bequest made in his will, and is conditioned on the erection of a public library building within 10 years.

Librarians.

ALMY, Miss Ida B., a graduate of the Armour Institute library training class of 1894, is librarian of the Philadelphia Commercial Museums.

BIDWELL, Miss Clara, a graduate of the Pratt Institute library training class of 1895, is in charge of the circulating department of the Somerville (Mass.) Public Library.

BRAINERD, Miss Fannie P., a graduate of the Pratt Institute library training class of 1895, is cataloger at the library of the Union for Christian Work, Brooklyn, N. Y.

BROWNING, Miss Eliza G., who was removed from her position as librarian of the Indianapolis Library on April 4, has been connected with that library for the past 16 years, and has been librarian for four years past. She is a member of the A. L. A. and of the Indiana Library Association, in which she has been an effective worker. Her removal is explained by the school board, which is the controlling authority of the library, on the ground that she did not keep effective discipline in the library administration. According to the local press it seems, however, to have been largely a personal matter on the part of the board.

COFFIN, Miss Helen L., a graduate of the Armour Institute library training class of 1895, has been appointed reference librarian of the Aurora (Ill.) Public Library.

DICKINSON, Miss Sarah S., a graduate of the Armour Institute library training class of 1896, has been appointed assistant at the John Crerar Library, Chicago.

DRAPER, Miss Miriam S., a graduate of the Pratt Institute library training class of 1895, has been appointed cataloger at the Illion (N. Y.) Public Library.

GAY, Miss Helen Kilduff, a graduate of the New York State Library School (class of '94-'95), has been appointed librarian of the Mt. Vernon (N. Y.) newly incorporated Public Library.

HANFORD, Miss Grace, a graduate of the Pratt Institute library training class of 1895, is now librarian of the Woman's Institute, Yonkers, N. Y.

HARDING, Miss Margaret A., a graduate of the Armour Institute library training class of 1894, has been appointed assistant in charge of the travelling libraries of the University of Chicago.

HARRISON, Joseph Leroy, librarian of the Providence (R. I.) Athenæum, was on April 3 elected librarian of the Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library, succeeding Miss E. G. Browning. The school board, which controls the library, voted at that meeting to raise the salary of the librarian from \$1800 to \$3000 a year, but the matter was postponed; it also adopted an amendment to the rules giving the librarian authority to appoint or remove all library employees. It

is not yet definitely known whether Mr. Harrison will accept the offered position. He is a graduate of Cornell and of the New York State Library School (class of 1893), and has studied at Heidelberg University. He is a member of the American Library Association, has been engaged as cataloger in several libraries, for two years past, has been librarian of the Providence Athenæum, and has contributed various articles on library topics to periodicals.

JEFFERS, Mrs. Anne Burton, was appointed by Governor Lowndes librarian of the Maryland State Library at Annapolis on March 30, and the state senate promptly confirmed the appointment, although there was some discussion whether a woman could hold office under the constitution of Maryland. Mrs. Jeffers was named in place of Mr. C. O. Melvin, withdrawn. "To say that this last-day episode of the legislature of 1896 created a sensation among the masculine spoilers around the state house is to put the case mildly," is the newspaper account of the appointment. It is quite likely that a legal contest will grow out of the appointment of Mrs. Jeffers, as Col. Luther H. Gadd, the present librarian, claims that the constitution does not recognize females as state officials and also that her appointment was not made within the constitutional limit of 50 days from the beginning of the legislative session. The salary of the librarian is \$1500 per year, and a bond for \$5000 must be furnished. Mrs. Jeffers is the daughter of Commodore William Nicholson Jeffers, who, from 1878 until his death in 1883, was chief of the Bureau of Ordnance of the U. S. Navy. Commodore Jeffers entered the navy in 1840, and served both in the Mexican and in the Civil wars. A little over a year ago Mrs. Jeffers was a candidate for the postmastership of Annapolis and almost received the appointment.

LE CRONE, Miss Anna L., a graduate of the Pratt Institute library training class of 1895, has been appointed librarian of the Champaign (Ill.) Public Library.

MACKY, Miss Bessie Rutherford, assistant librarian and instructor in the library class at the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, died at her home in Philadelphia on April 4. Miss Macky, who has been connected with the institute since September, 1892, was a graduate of Wellesley College, B.A. 1889, and of the N. Y. State Library School, B.L.S. 1892. She had many friends in the A. L. A. and the Pennsylvania Library Club, and her personal charm and particular fitness for library work make her loss especially sad. The following resolutions were adopted by the faculty of the institute at a meeting on April 11, in her memory:

"That in the death of Miss Macky the institute has lost an able officer and an instructor of rare personal and mental endowments.

"Miss Macky brought to the discharge of her duties both as assistant librarian and as instructor of the library class in library economy and in English literature, the thorough equipment of a collegiate and professional training united with extraordinary talent and with that singular modesty which is the grace of one who

gives to the daily work of life the best efforts of mind and soul and stops not to count the value of the gift.

"As an advocate and a product of the higher education of women, Miss Macky was a striking example of the fulfilment of the supreme purpose of that education — namely, the capacity for spiritual enjoyment and for unselfish creative activity.

"That while we sorrow for this young life, cut off in the beginning of a career of great promise, we yet rejoice that the quickening influence of her bright clear spirit has touched our lives and that it remains to all who have been privileged to know her both a blessing and an inspiration."

SMITH, Joseph P., state librarian of Ohio, has resigned his position, the resignation to take effect May 25. The resignation was entirely a matter of politics.

SMITH, Miss Winifred B., an assistant at the Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library, has just been appointed first assistant in the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library.

TYLER, Miss Alice S., a graduate of the Armour Institute library training class of 1895, has been appointed assistant at the Cleveland (O.) Public Library.

WILLIAMS, Miss Sarah N., a graduate of the Armour Institute library training class of 1895, is librarian of the Charlotte (Mich.) Public Library.

Cataloging and Classification.

BOSTON P. L. Bulletin, v. 14, no. 4. January, 1896. Bost., 1896. 242-318 p. Q.

This is the last issue of the *Bulletin* in its present form; henceforward monthly lists of accessions will be issued, while the special bibliographical features that have formed so valuable a feature of the *Bulletin* will appear from time to time, either as part of the monthly lists or in separate shape. This number contains a classed list of recent accessions followed by author and title indexes; a continuation of the "Chronological index of historical fiction," covering Spain and Portugal, and an index to the contents of v. 1-6 (new series) of the *Bulletin*.

BUTTE (Mont.) F. P. L. Bulletin; issued quarterly. v. 1, no. 1, February, 1896. 16 p. O.

Besides a list of additions for Jan.-Feb., contains a first instalment of a "Supplement to catalogue," covering A-Animal.

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Bulletin of books added to the library during the year 1895. Cincinnati, 1896. 92 p. Q.

The usual yearly volume containing the four quarterly bulletins of the year, with author-index appended.

FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin, v. 1, no. 3, Jan., 1896. 402 p. Q.

"This is the first of a series of bi-monthly bulletins, to be published for free distribution." It contains the numerous reading-lists on various subjects that have been printed in local papers from time to time; there are 45 such lists, ranging in size from 15 titles to two or more pages, and covering a wide variety of topics.

HARTFORD (Ct.) P. L. Bulletin. January, 1896. 44 p. O.

Concludes the list of books on sociology, political economy, etc., begun in the April, 1895, issue.

THE NEW BEDFORD (Mass.) F. P. L. Bulletin for March contains reference lists nos. 3 and 4 on Abraham Lincoln, and Kindergarten literature.

NEW SOUTH WALES P. L., Sydney. Guide to the catalogues of the reference library, with regulations for visitors and hints to readers and students. December, 1895. Sydney, Government Printer, 1896. 80 p. 1. Q.

Free access is allowed adult readers to the shelves in the reference library, and this "guide" is a full and compact directory to the various books in the 10 main classes, into which the contents of the library are divided. The classes are distinguished by the letters A to K, books relating to Australasia having the letter M prefixed to the class-letter. The presses in each class bear the class-letter, and are numbered from 1 consecutively in each class; the shelves in each press are lettered from P to Z, to avoid confusion with the class-letters, and the books on each shelf are numbered from 1 up to 40, according to the size of the shelf. Thus Badger's "Statutes of New Zealand," v. 1, is numbered MF 3 S 1, which means class F, press 3, shelf S, book 1, in the Australasian collection. The guide is, briefly, an alphabetic list of subject-headings followed by a class-number, and is intended to direct the reader at once to the group of presses containing books on the desired subject. The 10 classes and their main subdivisions are prefaced to the guide or subject index proper, which includes, in close classification, classes, sub-classes, sections, and individual subjects. The list is interesting as a collection of subject-headings; it is clearly and well printed on one side of the paper only. Mr. Anderson, the librarian, has in preparation a classified dictionary index of all the books in the library which it is hoped to complete and publish this year.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE (Eng.) P. L. has issued a 2-p. "Angler's list," recording the books on angling contained in the circulating and reference departments of the library.

OTIS L. (Norwich, Mass.) Bulletin for March contains a "Reference list for a course of study in elementary physics."

THE PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. Bulletin for February devotes 11 pages to its "Special catalogue no. 3"—an interesting co-operative index of the periodicals, serials, annuals, etc., currently received by 14 libraries in Providence and six in its vicinity, giving the name of the library or libraries receiving each publication. Over 1000 periodical issues are thus listed, and the index cannot fail to be most useful to the local public. The reference-list in this issue (no. 27) is devoted to South Africa, and is almost a bibliography of the subject.

THE SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for March devotes its special reading-lists to Fairy tales and mythology; Italy in the 19th century; Charles Carleton Coffin; Louis Agassiz; Asa Gray.

THE SKANDINAVISK ANTIQUARIAT of Copenhagen has issued a sales catalog of a considerable collection of works of voyages and travels, and books, maps, etc., relating to North and South America, which on account of its fullness possesses a certain bibliographical interest and usefulness.

U. S. NAVY DEPARTMENT L. Supplement to the catalogue, author and title alphabet: additions from September, 1892, to September 1895. Washington, 1896. 106 p. 1. Q.

WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for February continues its special classed list on political economy and allied topics.

WOBURN (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin of accessions, December 1, 1895—March 1, 1896; with conspectus of deeds. 10 p. Q.

The collection of deeds in the Woburn Library numbers over 5000 mss. of varied character, some of them of much local importance. The brief index appended to this bulletin is as compact as possible, giving simply the surname of the family concerned, and the years covered by the deeds.

CHANGED TITLES.

"Literary studies," ed. 2, 1895, by Joseph Jacobs, is the same as his "Essays and reviews," 1891, with the addition of three short essays on Tennyson, Stevenson, and Seeley. Full title of "Essays," etc., is: "G. Eliot, Matthew Arnold, Browning, Newman: essays and reviews from the *Athenaeum*," pub. by D. Nutt.

BEATRICE WINSER.

FULL NAMES.

In the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, for Feb.—March, 1896, pp. 114—123, there is a valuable article by Max Lane on methods of ascertaining the Christian names of authors. The article is especially valuable for catalogers dealing with authors using other European languages than English. It mentions, usually with brief characterizations, a large number of books to be consulted in different cases, and in conclusion gives three typical cases.

W. J. J.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Cratty, Robert Irvin (Notes on the aquatic phenogams of Iowa);

Davis, C. Lukens (Brief history of the North Carolina troops on the continental establishment);

Gates, Willey Francis (Anecdotes of great musicians);

Ingalls, James Monroe (Handbook of problems in direct fire);

Kneass, Strickland Landis (Practice and theory of the injector);

Lukens, Herman Tyson (The connection between thought and memory);

MacDougal, Daniel Trembly (Irritability and movement in plants);

Martindale, James Boyd (Martindale's American law directory);

Reagan, Harry Clifton, jr. (Locomotive mechanism and engineering);

Richardson, Milton T. (Practical blacksmithing);

Tracy, S. M., and Earle, Franklin Sumner (Mississippi fungi).

Bibliography.

AUSTIN, Alfred. North, E. D. A bibliography of Alfred Austin. (In *The Book Buyer*, April, p. 126-128.)

BELGIUM. Bibliographie nationale : dictionnaire des écrivains belges et catalogue de leur publications, 1830-1880. Part 3. Brussels, Weissenbruch, 1896. p. 193-288, 8°. 2.50 fr.

BERALDI, H. La relieure du XIX^e siècle. Partie 3^{me}: L'histoire de la relieure de 1874 à 1885; avec 76 héliogravures de Dujardin et Charreyre, et des fac-similes. Paris, Conquet, 1896. 8°. 60 fr.

BUBE, W. Die ländliche Volks-Bibliothek: ein kritischer Wegweiser und Muster-Katalog, nebst Grundstöcken und Winken zur Einrichtung und Leitung. Berlin, Trowitzsch & Sohn, 1896. 92 p. 8°. 1 m.

CLASSICS. Meader, Clarence L. The most essential books for a high-school classical library. (In *The School Review*, March, 1896. 4: 149-57.)

This list, selected from about 120 authors, contains "the volumes which should first be selected and purchased" for the study of the Greek and Latin classics in high schools. Place, publisher, date, size, and price of each book are given. The list is based on the "List of books recommended for a high-school classical library by a committee of the Michigan Schoolmasters' Club," a new edition of which is soon to be published by Macmillan.

EDUCATION. Munro, Ja. P. The educational ideal: an outline of its growth in modern times. Lond., Isbister, 1896.

A bibliography is appended to each chapter.

POWELL, G. H. Excursions in Libraria: being retrospective views and bibliographical notes. London, Lawrence, 1895. 288 p. 16°. net, 6 s.

PSYCHOLOGY. The psychological index, no. 2: a bibliography of the literature of psychology and cognate subjects for 1895; compiled by Livingston Farrand, of Columbia College,

and Howard C. Warren, of Princeton University. p. 4+90.

This index is sent without charge to the subscribers of the *Psychological Review* (Macmillan & Co.); it may be purchased separately for 75 cents. The titles (1394) are classified under eight general headings, each of which is subdivided. There is an index of authors. The compilers request the co-operation of writers and publishers in sending them notices of books or articles.

QUAKERS. "Southern Quakers and slavery," by Stephen B. Weeks (Johns Hopkins Press), is devoted (p. 345-362) to a bibliography of the subject. It is arranged under three headings: Original manuscript sources; Original printed sources; and Secondary authorities.

RIVOLI, Duc de. Les missels vénétiens, leur description, illustrations, bibliographie: étude sur l'art de la gravure sur bois à Venise, de 1480 à 1600. Paris, J. Rothschild, 1896. 250 fr.

TAYLOR, Bayard. Albert H. Smyth's "Bayard Taylor" (*American men of letters*) contains a bibliography, pp. 299-307. It is divided into three parts, as follows: 1, Work; 2, Chronology of the "Poems of the Orient"; 3, Chronological list of writings.

TENNYSON. Shepherd, R. Herne. The bibliography of Tennyson: a bibliographical list of the published and privately printed writings of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, from 1827 to 1894 inclusive, with his contributions to annuals, magazines [etc.], and a scheme for a final and definitive edition of the poet's works. Lond., privately printed, F. Hollings, 1896. 7+88 p. D. pap., 5 s.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

"Essays on various subjects of taste, morals, and national policy," by a Citizen of Virginia, 8°, pp. 350, Georgetown, D. C., 1822, is by George Tucker.

"The state sovereignty record of Massachusetts," by a Son of Norfolk, 8°, pp. 28, Norfolk, Va., 1872, is by Charles Harris.

W: BEER.

Pembridge, ps. of the late John Petch Hewby, author of "Whist, or Bumblepuppy?" and other books on whist.

Warwick Thompson is the pseudonym under which W. Pett Ridge made his first essay in fiction. Under this name he published in London in 1894 a volume of short stories called "Eighteen of them." He has recently published under his own name "A clever wife" and "The second opportunity of Mr. Staplehurst."

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

WISCONSIN SUPPLEMENT.

EDITED BY MISS L. E. STEARNS, *Secretary Wisconsin Free Library Commission.*

TRAVELLING LIBRARIES IN FARMING COMMUNITIES.

BY FRANK A. HUTCHINS, *Chairman Wisconsin Free Library Commission.*

THREE years ago the New York State Library began to send out from its home in Albany small libraries of 100 volumes each to various parts of the state. These were called travelling libraries because each remained but six months at a place, and was then returned to the parent library to be exchanged if desired, and reshipped to another station. Each library was so completely equipped that it could be operated independently wherever it might be placed. They were loaned to properly accredited public libraries and to communities without such libraries upon the petition of 25 resident taxpayers. After a time the rules were extended to include loans to accredited university-extension centres, and to study or reading clubs. Smaller libraries of 50 and even 25 volumes have been made, and smaller communities have been served, and the tendency of the movement seems to be toward smaller libraries. A fee of five dollars is charged for each library of 100 volumes, or three dollars for 50 volumes, in consideration of which the state pays all expenses of transportation. The fee is doubled if those who receive the library make any charge for the use of the books. The persons, institutions, or societies borrowing a library from the state are responsible for any losses or injuries, however incurred. Printed catalogs, small enough to be held in ordinary envelopes, are supplied in numbers with each library. These contain the titles of the books, notes descriptive of their character or contents, and the rules for the guidance of the local librarian and borrowers. As many of the more popular libraries have been duplicated 10 times, and all will keep travelling for years, the cost of printing for each journey of a library is but a trifling sum. As to the results obtained from these libraries I can do no better than to quote from an article written by Mr. W. R. Eastman, who manages them:

"The record of the number of books taken by a single reader is not complete in every case, but there has been a card that showed a list of 38 charged to one name; others of 32, 31, 27,

25, and 24. These records came from places where books had been very scarce, and the children that took them were very hungry for books."

"There are six public libraries now in active operation that began by a petition for a travelling library. We look for many more, in time, for the petitioners agree to push the scheme for a local library as soon as public interest will warrant. Many other libraries have been encouraged and enlarged by just these additions to their resources. A new impulse for wholesome reading has been given in 140 places, and the libraries sent on petitions have stirred communities to a new and earnest consideration of the necessity of providing books for the people. It was shown them, too, what a library is, how it may be arranged and handled, how many attractive and excellent books may be had in these fruitful days, and how easy and good it is to have them. The records of libraries returned shows a circulation of 28,000. The 100 libraries still out must at the prevailing average have a circulation by this time of 12,000 to 15,000 more. Making allowance for subject libraries in use we can safely say that 40,000 of these books have been read since the system was put in operation a little more than two years ago."

In 1895 the Michigan legislature appropriated \$2500 to buy books for a similar system to be worked from the state library at Lansing. It is too soon now for definite figures, but the popularity of the scheme may be predicted from the fact that when the libraries were ready to go out, there were scarcely half enough to meet the demand. The Michigan libraries number 50 volumes each.

The success of the New York plan has suggested to one of our own citizens, Hon. J. H. Stout, of Menomonie, a method of accomplishing his purposes in somewhat similar lines. He is a trustee of the Mabel Tainter Memorial Library in his home town. This library was built and is maintained by private gifts, and its privileges are free to any residents of Dunn county, and yet comparatively few books are

drawn by people not living in Menomonie, because of the long trips necessary in getting and returning them. It occurred to Mr. Stout to build a library within a library at Menomonie, which should go out in instalments to reach eventually all the rural residents of Dunn county, and give them something of the same library privileges which are enjoyed by his fellow-citizens in Menomonie. He proposes to set at work 16 libraries of 30 volumes each, which are to make individual trips of four months. They will go to small hamlets or isolated farming communities, where the people will form local library associations, and agree to take good care of them, and return them promptly and safely. Each association will have a secretary, who will have responsible charge of its business and correspondence. Each library will be put up in a substantial bookcase, strong enough to endure many shipments, with double doors, lock, key, and rules and records so arranged that any intelligent person can manage its affairs with little trouble.

Following the advice of the managers of the New York libraries, a fee of one dollar will be charged for each library, and, in consideration of this fee, Mr. Stout will pay all the charges of transportation. This fee may be paid by an individual or by a neighborhood collection, but the books of the library must be free to all members of the community who will use them carefully.

As the quotation made from Mr. Eastman shows, the New York travelling libraries were largely intended to lead to the establishment of permanent libraries, or to assist them, and such libraries cannot prove continuously popular and helpful unless they have occasional accessions of new books. Mr. Stout proposes to go to many communities so small that constantly growing permanent libraries are practically impossible, and to give them an ever-fresh supply of wholesome literature to inspire, instruct, cheer, and amuse, and to trust to the quickened taste and demand for good books to work out broader plans for the future. In order to elevate the home and sweeten and enrich the home life, he must get access to it, and this must be done, in comparatively illiterate homes at least, through the children. All the libraries will, therefore, be strong in good literature that is entertaining to all classes of children and young people. The books of a sample library may show better than a general description the plan upon which these libraries will be made. They are as follows:

"Ivanhoe," "John Halifax," "Twice-told tales," "Charles O'Malley," "Wreck of the *Grosvenor*," "Ramona," "A war-time wooing," "A singular life," "Old-fashioned girl," "The jungle book," "Cruise of the *Ghost*," "Little Jarvis," "Birds' Christmas carol," "A flock of girls," "My Arctic journal," "Lost in the jungle," "Mountains of California," Parkman's "La Salle," "Norway" (*Story of the Nations*), "Famous American statesmen," Ball's "Starland," "First principles of agriculture," "Cyclopedia of games and sports," "Boston cookbook," "Ivory king," "American citizen," "Franklin square song-book no. 1," "College songs," *St. Nicholas* (two bound parts).

While each library has only a few of the old-time favorites, and while many of the best children's books are omitted because they are found in nearly all the school libraries, it will readily be seen that a number of such libraries will include a very wide range of the best popular books on all subjects of general interest. The library which follows the idea of the one described will probably include a volume of Dickens, one upon an ancient statesman, and one upon hygiene or botany, and one, probably, upon some popular phase of social science.

In working out his plans, Mr. Stout called upon the Wisconsin Library Commission for counsel as to the details of management; and as a representative of the commission and of Mr. Stout, I visited many of the country schools and rural communities of Dunn County under the guidance of the county superintendent, Miss Brickley, whose enthusiastic support of the plan will be a great help in preparing the way for it.

We were requested to find whether the people wanted the books enough to take good care of them, and, if so, what books were most desired and what volumes were most frequently to be found in the home and school libraries. We had no difficulty in finding that people wanted the books. Instead of asking questions we were set at work answering them as soon as our mission became known. "How can we get a library?" "How soon can we get it?" came promptly after the first surprise.

In nearly every school we found a small school library with two or three books of reference, a few of information supplementary to the textbooks, and a few readable books of general interest for children. In these country districts the annual additions to the libraries range from three to six or eight volumes, and the new books are soon read through, though all the

volumes will be fresh to a younger generation as it comes forward. In the families we found comparatively few recent books and the more popular books of the private libraries were well known to all the neighborhood. The similarity and general distribution of the school libraries will make it unnecessary to buy quite a number of the most popular children's books for the travelling libraries.

The lack of children's periodicals was especially noticeable. In one small district school, where nearly 20 wholesome looking, likable boys and girls were gathered, we found 15 volumes in the school library, and a worn-out copy of the World's Fair number of the *Youth's Companion*. The thumbed edges of the pictures of the latter, its soiled paper, that was fairly wilted by years of use at home and at school, were eloquent of an unsatisfied hunger for the marvels of beauty, art, and nature of the great outside world. None but occasional copies of the *Youth's Companion*, *St. Nicholas*, and *Harper's Young People* come to these children, who, with less distractions of all kinds than their town cousins, would make even fuller use of them if they had them.

Besides finding a very keen book hunger in every community, we found everywhere, even among people who read little, the same intelligent appreciation of the mission and value of good books, the same recognition of the fact that a well-nourished intellectual life is a necessity in stimulating a better individual and community life. The farmers, of Dunn County at least, do not need more arguments about the value of books—they want the books.

In pursuance of his policy of reaching the families through the homes, Mr. Stout was inclined to look to the school-houses as the best library stations, but the canvass of the county seemed to show that in many cases the communities could be best served at the post-offices, and that postmasters were generally very ready to act as librarians. A post-office is open every day in the week, it is often the common centre for three or four or more districts, and the postmaster is accustomed to keeping records. The schools are closed Saturdays, and often for months, and libraries in them would be open to the public only after school hours.

The value of each library will, however, depend very largely upon the zeal and intelligence of the librarian, and the rules in regard to the placing of the libraries will be flexible enough to allow them to work their way into the hands of the people who will best serve and

accommodate the public. The practical experience of the coming year will probably show opportunities for improvement in many minor details of management in Mr. Stout's scheme.

Libraries and great educational institutions have been springing up and expanding their work all over the state, but the liberality of philanthropists, the large public expenditures for education and charity, seem to have run in established channels to the residents of cities. For years the world has been making great reservoirs of blessings in the cities, free to all who come, but now comes a new philanthropy, which builds a new reservoir indeed, but sends its contents in little rills to sparkle at the doors of the thirsty who cannot come.

But if this plan showers blessings upon Dunn County, why could not a wider plan shower similar blessings over the whole commonwealth? If one citizen can do this for one county, why cannot two millions of people do it for themselves? It would be a waste of breath to wish for enough philanthropists to supply all our farming communities with travelling libraries. In public affairs, as in private, Heaven helps those who help themselves.

An extension of our educational system to include libraries for farmers, as free as those we have for townspeople, is demanded by every consideration of sound public policy when we have shown a practical method of securing it without too great expense.

Every sound instinct of national preservation and patriotism demands for the masses of our people a fuller education to train them to meet political, social, and industrial conditions that are annually becoming more complex. To the man upon the farm even more than to the man in the city, the news of the great movements of the world must come by reading. The state trains these people to read, and then leaves the quantity and quality of their reading to chance. It gives them an expensive schooling for six or seven years, and then, when a few cents per capita annually would enable them to educate themselves throughout their lives, it neglects them.

Is it possible to devise any addition to our system of popular education which will give so much information, so carefully chosen, at so small cost, as will be gained by adding free travelling libraries to it? Not one citizen in one thousand could select as good books, not one in ten thousand could buy as cheaply, and none could make exchanges of readings as wisely, cheaply, and satisfactorily, as *all*, working *unitedly*, may do *for* all.

THE STATE NORMAL TRAVELLING CATALOGER.

BY AGNES VAN VALKENBURGH, *Cataloger, Milwaukee Public Library.*

In the work of the libraries with the schools, in the earlier history of the movement, librarians became aware that the difficulties lay not so much with the children as with the instructors, most of whom came from small towns which had no libraries, and so were not familiar with books and their uses. In order to remedy this unfortunate state of affairs, it was considered desirable to give the teachers some instruction in the uses and possibilities of a library.

In 1891, there were in Wisconsin five normal schools in different parts of the state, from which the supply of teachers is largely drawn. Each of these schools possessed a library of from 1000 to 2500 volumes, selected more or less at random, and no attempt at classification or cataloging had been made.

In July of that year, largely through the efforts of Mr. F. A. Hutchins, the regents of the normal schools "appropriated a sufficient sum for the purpose of arranging, classifying, and cataloging all these libraries according to a common system, and to secure for this work a competent person who could be trusted to put them in such shape that the successive classes of normal school students, when they leave school, will necessarily have received some training in the use and management of books for educational purposes."

The next month the writer of this article was given charge of this pioneer effort, for nowhere to our knowledge had a like work been done.

The Cutter classification, number 4, was adopted, and during the school year of 1891-92 the libraries at Milwaukee, Oshkosh, and Whitewater were provided with dictionary card catalogs and card shelf-lists. The subject-work was done very minutely and carefully, the more so as in the smaller towns there were no free public libraries.

During the entire time spent at the schools the personal work with the students was regarded as of primary interest, and no pains were spared to make them feel at liberty to call upon the cataloger, either for help in preparing papers or for supplementary reading. The presidents of all the schools were much interested in the work, and their consideration made smooth many a rough path.

The following year, on the resignation of the cataloger, the work was placed in the hands of Mrs. Sarah H. Miner, who added to her interest

several years of experience as librarian at Muskegon, Mich. She completed the work first authorized by reorganizing the libraries at Platteville and River Falls.

When the sixth school was started at Stevens Point, one of the first things President Pray desired was a good library and a trained person "to start it right." Miss Lizzie Swan, who received her training at the Armour Institute, was secured for the position. The other schools having had large appropriations for books during the past year, have also desired her services, and she is at present at work in the Milwaukee school, having just finished cataloging the new books at Whitewater. It is hoped by the friends of the work that the final result will be that the office of superintendent of the normal school libraries may be made a permanent position.

We have been in correspondence recently with the presidents of the various schools and they are unanimous in saying that the work done in their libraries has added to the efficiency of the schools, that the teachers take more interest in the books because they find it possible to get at what they want more readily than could otherwise be done; that the students use the library more, and much more intelligently than formerly.

In five of the schools, librarians have been appointed who catalog the ordinary additions to the library, though in some cases the librarian also acts as secretary to the president. In one school the work is done by one of the professors.

Each of the presidents gives it as his opinion that it is an absolute necessity that the work shall be organized by some person of library experience, "in order to insure full inauguration of a plan that at once multiplies the uses of the individual library through an approved detail organization and makes each library an auxiliary of others when required."

This, briefly, is a history of the work done. Its influence no one can measure. In 1893-94, there were 1350 students attending the normal schools. These will go out to hundreds of communities, as the bringers of light to the coming generation, and if this vast body of missionaries has a firm belief in the power of books and a knowledge of their use, what may we not hope for the future of the library movement in the state?

LIBRARY OF THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN had an historical society while it was still in the territorial stage. As the result of agitation begun in the columns of the *Mineral Point Democrat*, in October, 1845 — three years before Wisconsin was admitted to the Union — a society was formed at Madison, the capital, in October, 1846, by delegates in attendance on the first constitutional convention. Most of the principal men of the territory were present at the initial meeting of the association, the purpose of which was "to collect from the pioneers then alive such facts in regard to the early history of Wisconsin as they might possess, as well as to treasure up those concerning the future."

But while the enthusiasm at this meeting was great, no one gave the matter any further attention; no records were kept, no money was paid into the treasury, no work was performed. Thus the first organization of the society may be considered as having died when the gavel sounded for adjournment.

On the 30th of January, 1849, 19 days after the opening of the first session of the state legislature in Madison, 150 persons, chiefly members of the legislature, formed a State Historical Society, the previous existence of the old society being ignored. Governor Dewey was chosen president of the society. The list of vice-presidents comprised one from each county in the state. I. A. Lapham, the distinguished scientist and antiquarian, was elected secretary, but he was able to give no time to the work. Public addresses were given before the society in 1849, 1850, and 1851, by prominent citizens of the new state. The pamphlet discourses were sent out to a dozen other learned societies, and a library of 50 volumes was slowly accumulated — the books being state laws, legislative journals, miscellaneous public documents, two volumes of the *Transactions of the American Ethnological Society*, and a volume of American bibliography. The meagre collection was contained in a small glass-fronted case, kept on a table in the governor's office, and this case is now exhibited as a curiosity in the society's museum.

It was evident that the society would never amount to anything at this rate of progress. Somebody must devote his entire time to the work. Lyman C. Draper, of Philadelphia, who had already spent about 15 years in the accumulation of materials for Western history, was chosen secretary, and at once entered with enthusiasm upon the undertaking of accumulating books, relics, and curiosities for the museum, portraits for the gallery, and documents for publication in the Wisconsin Historical Collections. By the close of the year 1854 the secretary was able to report to the society the acquisition of 1000 volumes and 1000 pamphlets and documents — a remarkable showing, compared with the 50 books which had been the product of the five years preceding his administration. On the first of January, 1856, Daniel S. Durrie, of Albany,

N. Y., was chosen as the secretary's lieutenant, the title of librarian being given to the office. Mr. Durrie held this useful and honorable position for over 36 years until his death, August 30, 1892. He was succeeded by Isaac S. Bradley, who for 17 years had been his chief assistant.

The society soon securing legislative aid, the collections grew apace until nearly the entire basement of the local Baptist church was occupied. In January, 1866, the institution — library, portrait gallery, and museum — was removed by authority of the legislature to quarters especially prepared for it in the then new south wing of the capitol. The rate of increase was such that in less than ten years' time these quarters were a tight fit. By 1881 cords of volumes, pamphlets, and relics were piled in out-of-the-way corners and rooms throughout the capitol, there being no space to shelve or display them.

In December, 1884, a transfer was made, the society being given the second, third, and fourth floors of one of the two large transverse wings ordered by the legislature of 1881 to be attached to the capitol.

Secretary Draper resigned his position on January 6, 1887, with a record of 33 years of arduous labor in behalf of the state, being succeeded by the writer hereof.

From the first, the Wisconsin legislature made appropriations with which to purchase accessions, meet the greater part of the running expenses, and pay the salaries of the secretary and librarian. The relationship of the society to the state is not generally understood, even in Wisconsin. By statute, the society, which operates under a legislative charter granted in 1853, is the trustee of the state, and holds all its property for the commonwealth. It can neither sell nor give away any of the property it thus holds in trust, nor remove any of it from the capitol without special consent of the legislature. The machinery of the society serves to remove the management of this enterprise from partisan control. For 43 years there has not been even a suspicion of "politics" in the conduct of its affairs. The official interests of the commonwealth are looked after by the governor, secretary of state, and state treasurer, who are by law *ex-officio* members of the executive committee and serve on its most important sub-committees.

The society is actively engaged in several departments of research and accumulation, has a fairly-equipped historical and ethnographical museum, a portrait gallery of Wisconsin worthies and numerous pieces of portrait statuary. About 50,000 persons visit the gallery and museum annually. Yet, whatever reputation the society may have won among scholars has been chiefly the outgrowth of its library; in this it takes great interest and is doing its best educational work.

In 1875 the miscellaneous books in the state library were transferred by order of the legislature to the Historical Society's library.

The society had published 13 volumes of Wisconsin Historical Collections; the catalog

of its library, in seven volumes; the proceedings of its annual meetings; two special class catalogs, one containing titles of "Books on the United States civil war and slavery," and the other an exhaustive "Bibliography of Wisconsin authors"; three editions of its portrait gallery catalog; and numerous historical pamphlets.

The Wisconsin Historical Library now numbers about 100,000 volumes and 85,000 pamphlets. The average annual increase is 4000 volumes and 3500 pamphlets. In 1866 Mrs. Otto Tank, of Fort Howard, gave us the library of her father, a scholarly Amsterdam clergyman named Van der Meulen. The Tank library consists of 5000 old and rare volumes, mostly in the Dutch language—probably the largest collection of Dutch books in the United States. Nearly half of them are richly bound in vellum, and many are profusely illustrated with 17th-century copperplate engravings; in the collection are numerous Bibles, atlases and charts, old editions of the classics, early lexicons and historical works. These old Dutch books are among the most precious of our treasures. Recently, many of the atlases and works of travel and description have been of great value to the national commission investigating the Guiana-Venezuela boundary, important contemporary evidence of the Dutch occupation of Venezuela having been discovered therein.

The principal daily and weekly newspapers of the state are sent gratis to the library for binding and permanent preservation. An annotated catalog of our newspaper files is now in course of publication.

Regarding the scope of the society's library, I may explain that it is a general reference library, with the lines of local and general American and English history, economics, sociology, and description developed with special care. On account of the proximity of the University of Wisconsin, about 90 per cent. of our readers are students from that institution, and in purveying for the state historical library their wants are taken into consideration. The university historical seminaries and some special classes in that line of work are given the use of rooms adjoining the library.

In addition to the university students, specialists from all parts of the West and South may be found in the state historical library. During the past year historical investigators from several of the Atlantic states, North and South, have sought our shelves chiefly to consult our manuscript collection, which now embraces some 600 stout folio volumes. These are particularly rich in material for the history of the West and South during the Revolutionary war and the War of 1812-15, and for the history of the fur trade in the old Northwest.

So rapid has been the growth of the society's collections, that the present quarters in the capitol, thought in the autumn of 1884 to be ample for a generation to come, soon proved inadequate in extent; at this writing, but 12 years later, the state of congestion is so great that the readers and officials are sadly cramped

for room, and books are being piled ceiling high. Moreover, the capitol is badly constructed in every way, and in no sense fire-proof; while the state government needs for its own purposes the space now occupied by the society.

After eight years of agitation, the legislature of 1895 came to the rescue of the society and voted an appropriation of a tenth of a mill on the assessed valuation of the state, for three years, amounting in the aggregate to \$180,000—for the purpose of erecting for its use a commodious, fire-proof building, on an ideal site adjoining the main campus of the state university. The ground, a plot 264 feet square, worth \$45,000, was donated by the university regents. Plans submitted by Ferry & Clas, the architects of the new Milwaukee Library-Museum building, have just been adopted for the new building; and it is expected that ground will be broken about the 1st of July next. It is hoped that we may be able in 1898 to celebrate the semi-centennial of Wisconsin's statehood by moving into our new quarters.

The structure will be built of some light-colored stone, and will be capable of at once housing 300,000 volumes; the large reading-room, somewhat after the fashion of that at Cornell, will seat 250 or 300 persons; there will be large and well-lighted offices and work-rooms for the staff, several seminary rooms, a lecture-hall, toilet-rooms on every floor, a bicycle-storage room on the ground floor, unpacking and bindery rooms; and over all, occupying the fourth floor, a large museum and art gallery. In the stack will be abundant room for special students; an electric lift will run through the six stories of the stack, and a passenger elevator will in the central rotunda take persons to the gallery and museum. It is designed to supply the new building with the most obvious of modern improvements, such as a private telephone system to every room, electric lighting, the best stack system obtainable, reference-books on the side-walls of the reading-room, and special rooms for consultation of maps, periodicals, newspaper files, and manuscripts.

The building is so designed that it can readily be enlarged at any time. Probably, before the present part is finished, the legislature will extend the appropriation so that accommodations for the overcrowded state university library may be placed under the same roof. This would be done by extending the reading-room, building offices for the university library staff, and a separate stack for the use of their collection; although doubtless two floors of this stack would at first be allotted to the Historical Society, which will soon need the room. The building thus completed would cost \$360,000 and house 600,000 volumes. When the time comes, as it surely will, although in the next generation, a further extension is planned for, by placing a long transverse stack at the rear of all, leaving an inner court; this would carry the capacity of the building, on the same ground, up to 1,500,000 volumes.

REUBEN GOLD THWAITES, *Secretary.*

THE STATE LIBRARY OF WISCONSIN.

THE State Library had its origin in the general appropriation of \$5000 out of the general treasury; by Congress, contained in the 17th section of the organic act, creating the territory of Wisconsin. At the first session of the territorial legislature, held in Belmont in 1836, a joint resolution was adopted, appointing the Hon. John M. Clayton, of Delaware (through whose instrumentality the clause in the organic act making the appropriation was inserted), Hon. Lewis F. Linn, of Missouri, Hon. G. W. Jones, then delegate in Congress from this territory (which at that time included what now constitutes the state of Iowa as well as Wisconsin), and Hon. Peter Hill Engle, the speaker of the first territorial house of representatives, a committee to select and purchase a library for the use of the territory, and authorizing them to draw the sum appropriated for that purpose from the federal treasury. Mr. Engle was the active member of the committee, and made the selections and purchases, with the approval of the other members. James Clarke, publisher of the *Belmont Gazette*, and first territorial printer, was the first librarian.

The first appropriation by the state to replenish the library was made in 1851. The sum of \$2500 was then appropriated to be expended, under the direction of Gov. Dewey, in the purchase of law-books. Subsequently, in 1854, the sum of \$3000 was appropriated for law and miscellaneous works; and in 1857 the additional appropriation of \$1000 was made for the same purpose, together with a standing appropriation of \$250 for such additions to the law and miscellaneous departments of the library as might from time to time be deemed desirable.

In 1864 the annual appropriation was increased to \$500, and two years later the additional sum of \$600 was placed at the disposal of the governor for the purpose of supplying deficiencies in the law department. These appropriations were continued until 1877, when the annual appropriation was increased to \$1500.

The purchase of miscellaneous works for the library was virtually discontinued in 1866. In 1875 the miscellaneous works were transferred to the State Historical Society.

Since that time the annual appropriation has been increased to \$2500; the salary of the librarian to \$2000; a messenger, who acts as assistant librarian, has been provided for at a salary of \$900. The appropriation is used solely for the purchase of books, all the incidental expenses of the library being met by the general fund of the state. The additions by exchange for the supreme court reports, statutes, etc., of other states are nearly equal to those obtained by purchase. The present strength of the library is 28,776 volumes; the annual increase is about 1000 volumes a year.

In 1878 the position of librarian was taken out of politics by the transfer of the appointing power from the governor to the justices of the supreme court and the attorney-general, who are *ex-officio* trustees of the library. No change has been made in the position since 1876.

JOHN R. BERRYMAN,
State Librarian.

THE MILWAUKEE LIBRARY-MUSEUM BUILDING.

THE Milwaukee Library-Museum building is the result of an evolution which has occupied nearly 10 years in reaching its present development. Western cities find imperative need of so many public improvements in a comparatively short period of time that considerable delay often ensues before such a building can be provided for even after its necessity is recognized. In the year 1890 about one-half the present site of the building was bought, under direction of the common council, and in November of the same year the librarian and a representative of the museum were sent on a tour of inspection among the best-known buildings for library and museum purposes.

The observations made at this time, combined with serious study of the needs of the two institutions, were recorded in a report to the trustees. Sketch plans for a building, which seemed the best possible solution of the problem as it then existed, were added.

The chief value of these plans seems to have been that they served to demonstrate to all who were interested that the lot then assigned to the building was hopelessly inadequate for the purpose. As a consequence, in 1891 the property was nearly doubled by the purchase of adjoining lots on the north and also on the east, giving a certainty of sufficient provision for a suitable building.

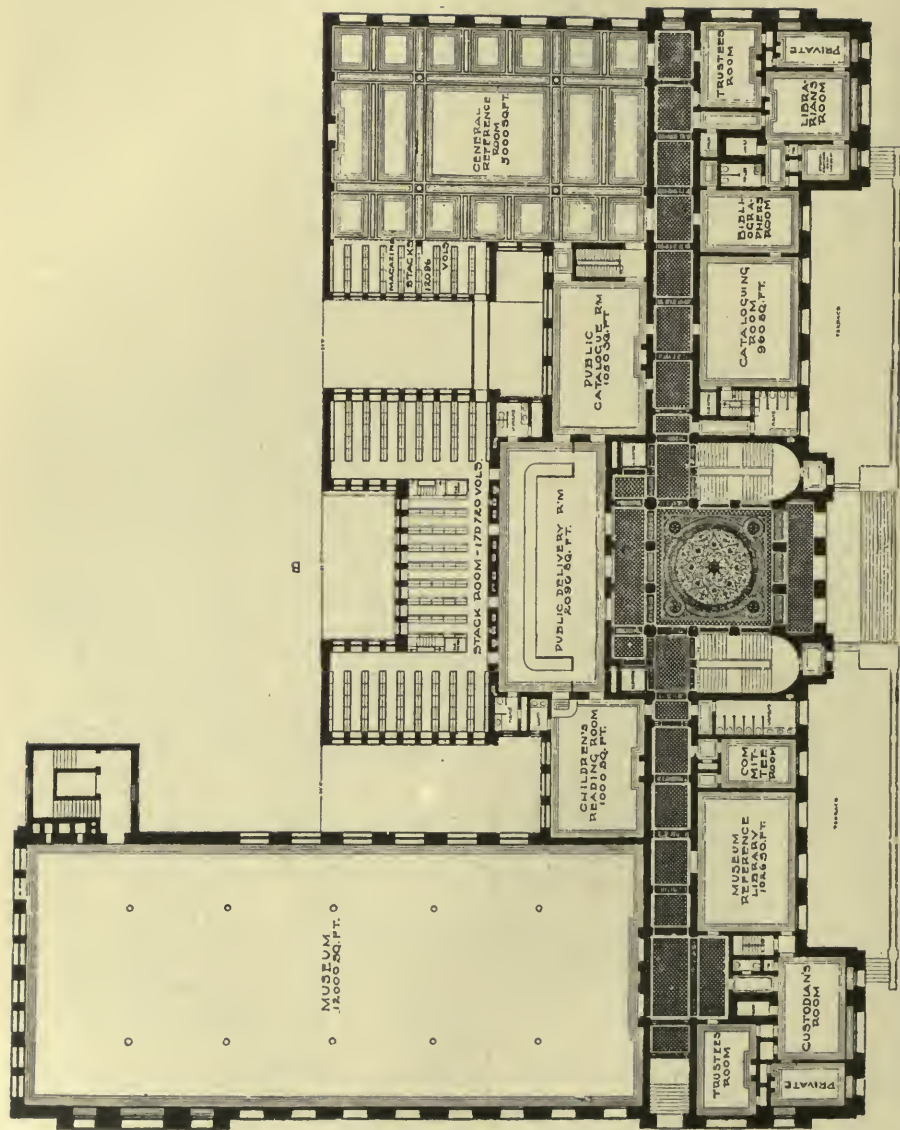
After this purchase further sketch-plans were made by the librarian, and these sketches, while they were not allowed to hamper the architects in their study of the problem, furnished the key to the solution which was finally reached.

The site, as finally completed, is a beautiful and commanding one, lying at the summit of a gradual ascent of a half mile from the river, which flows through the business centre of the city. The building occupies the whole south half of a square which is now the dividing line between the business and residence portion of the town. It faces due south on one of the widest avenues of the city. The situation is, as has been said, somewhat west of the business centre of the city, but is east and south of the centre of population, and is easily reached from all directions by electric-car lines.

The double purpose of the building is uncommon under just such relations as the two institutions, the Public Library and the Public Museum, bear to one another. Both are under municipal control, and each is governed by an independent, co-ordinate board of trustees, having but two members in common, those who represent the public-school system, the president of the school board and the superintendent of schools.

The building has been erected, so far as it is completed, by the two boards acting together as a joint board in the utmost harmony and good feeling.

Early in the discussion concerning the proposed building the attention of some of the trustees was attracted by the library building of the University of Leipzig, and many of the local designs submitted in the competition for plans showed the influence of this building. The ac-



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR
MILWAUKEE LIBRARY-MUSEUM BUILDING.



MILWAUKEE LIBRARY-MUSEUM BUILDING.

cepted design, made by Ferry & Clas, of Milwaukee, was undoubtedly thus affected, but a careful comparison of the cuts of the two buildings lessens the sense of resemblance between them. Both are buildings on classic lines, with three stories and basement, but the Milwaukee building shows far more influence of the Italian school than the German building, and the addition of the low dome, which was so successfully used in some of the best of the World's Fair buildings, adds beauty and distinction to the design.

The material used is an Indiana limestone, known as buff bedford. It is a warm light gray in color, not dark enough to obscure the charming effects of light and shade which are brought into play in classic architecture, and of fine enduring grain for the carvings of the rich Corinthian ornament.

The dominant feature of the building is the entrance in the centre of the Grand avenue front. This accentuation is architecturally correct, because it is in harmony with the spirit of the building, for only in this entrance, and the rotunda to which it leads, do the two institutions occupy common ground. From the rotunda the museum-rooms open toward the west and the library-rooms open to the north and east.

Across the whole façade of the building, which is 25 feet back from the street, is a terrace, enclosed by a balustrade at the street line. This terrace, with a flight of eight broad steps, secures beauty and dignity of approach. Three arched entrances lead into a vestibule, which itself opens by three large doorways into the rotunda.

The rotunda is the common ground of the two institutions, the centre where all visitors to the great building will enter. Here they will form their first impressions, and from this point they will gradually divide as they seek the various departments of both institutions. Here, therefore, have been massed the most impressive architectural effects of the building. It is certainly indefensible to cripple the working convenience of a public building in the desire to reach architectural perfection. It is no less indefensible to forget that a silent, ever-present emphasis on the dignity and beauty of the purposes of such a building may be expressed in the beauty and dignity of the building itself.

The drift of casual sight-seers through the working-rooms of a library is a serious interference in their legitimate work, but the exterior, always, and in this building the rotunda also, may be as beautiful as possible without disturbing any one or clogging the wheels of business.

The finish of the rotunda is to be in old convent Sienna marble, and the ornament, while not elaborate, is rich and fine. The floor of marble mosaic in fancy colors is especially designed by the architects in harmony with the general treatment of the building. Two massive and beautiful stairways rise between the columns which support the dome and lead to the galleries of the rotunda and to the upper floors of the building. Two passenger elevators also give easier access to the same floors.

Directly north of the rotunda, entered by three large doorways, is the delivery-room or *foyer* of the library, the centre of the busiest life of the library. This delivery-room is one story only in height, with elliptical panelled ceiling, and is lighted only by skylight. The room is of fine proportions, and while no sacrifice of convenience has been made, will be attractive and impressive. The finish is of Numidian marble, such woodwork as is used being of mahogany, and this, with simple but harmonious wall treatment, will present a rich, warm coloreffect.

Toilet-rooms for assistants communicate directly from this room, although dressing-rooms are equipped in a different part of the building.

The floor is a plain mosaic with dots, with a deep red field and border similar to that of the rotunda.

As accessories to the delivery-room, on the left is situated the children's room, on the right the public catalog-room, the two being of equal size, giving at once symmetry and convenience.

In the children's room, which is so placed that it may be controlled, when desirable, from the main counter in the delivery-room, much of the most valuable work of the library will be done. Opening as it does from the main delivery-room, where extreme quiet is neither necessary nor possible, there need be no dread that the happiness of the young folk in it will be anything but a pleasure to those who are unfortunate enough to have outgrown its attractions and privileges.

The public catalog-room, where there is need for quiet, is separated from the children's room by the whole 60 feet of the delivery-room, and there the searcher for clues may toil through card catalogs and printed lists in stillness.

This room is directly accessible from the delivery-room to the assistants behind the counter and on the other side from the reference-room. It is divided from the catalogers' rooms by a corridor only. It still remains to be determined whether the information-desk will be most useful in this room or in the *foyer*. Both the children's room and the catalog-room are lighted by strong, direct north light.

Directly north of the delivery-room, opening into it by four ample doorways, is the book-stack, in form half a hollow square. This form was dictated partly by convenience, partly by the exigencies of the building lot. The north wall of the east wing of the book-stack is on the lot line, and in order to be safer from possible unknown neighbors of the future it seemed wise that the north wall of the entire library wing of the building should be an unperforated fire wall. The present form of the stack seems to give at once very convenient access from the delivery-room and to provide perfect light.

The levels of the building lot made possible an advantageous arrangement of the floors of the stack. The street upon which the eastern side of the building faces slopes rapidly away toward the north, and the courts of the building are to be excavated to the levels of this street. This results in the possibility of placing two floors of the stack below the floor of the delivery-room and still to keep them entirely above

ground, dry and light. For the present but four floors of the stack will be constructed—two below the delivery-room, one on a level with it, where, of course, the most used books will be concentrated, and one above. Piers, foundations, and all supports are planned for a future possibility of 10 stories of stack, which will only then reach the height of the main building.

As the stack wing is nowhere visible from the street its exterior appearance has been of no importance, and it has been possible to build it in exact accordance with internal convenience without marring the building.

Each floor of the stack will shelve about 40,000 volumes. No aisle is less than three feet in width, and the main aisles are four feet wide. Whatever shelving is adopted will allow study-nooks to be formed by removing sections of shelves, if necessary, wherever it seems desirable throughout the stack.

Each floor of the stack is to be a separate story, with individual heating and ventilating flues, so that there may be no question of freezing on the first floor and broiling on the tenth. Proper stairways and service elevators are provided.

Eastward from the rotunda proceeds an ample corridor, passing the public catalog-room and leading to the great reference reading-room on the north and to the cluster of administration-rooms on the south.

The reference-room will be a noble room, fine in proportion, beautiful and dignified in treatment, but not elaborate in decoration. It is 80 feet in length by 54 feet in breadth; 32 feet in height in the centre, being divided at the outer edge by a gallery supported by columns. The north wall of this room, a heavy, unpierced fire-wall, is occupied by twin fireplaces, which, with wainscoting and columns, are of St. Baum marble; the wood-work is of curly birch.

Opening out of the western side of the room is a small stack for sets of bound periodicals and such portions of the reference library as cannot be shelved in the room itself. From this stack a bridge is to span the court between it and the main stack-room of the building, giving easy communication between these two departments of the library.

The gallery of the reference-room will be available for special collections, and will be reached only by a stairway situated between the reference-room and the public catalog-room, so that access to it may be controlled by attendants in either room.

The configuration of the ground spoken of in connection with the stack-room gives certain advantages to the reference-room also. The sharp declivity of Eighth street makes it undesirable for heavy traffic, especially as the next street west is a perfectly level-paved thoroughfare, thus giving less than the ordinary confusion of a city street. Besides this, the high basement necessary gives all the effect of a second story situation, thus gaining additional quiet.

South of the main corridor are the administration-rooms of the library, the cataloger's room being directly opposite the public catalog-

room. The trustees' room, librarian's offices, with stenographer's room, vault, closets, and necessary appointments, occupy the extreme southeastern corner of the building.

The criticism has been made that the librarian's offices are too far removed from the centre of the library. They were so placed because of the conviction that no wise administrative officer should attempt to directly control the details of the various departments of a large library. As the business of the library increases, the direct control of different departments must be delegated to responsible heads of those departments, through whom the general ideals and ideas of the chief librarian must be executed. The librarian cannot, indeed, safely remain closeted in an office in a remote corner of the building throughout the library day, but he must be provided with a fairly quiet retreat for the transaction of necessary business. He should also be protected, to a certain extent, from the interruption of the countless mass of trivial questions which less highly paid officials can answer equally well. Only thus can his time be saved for the essentially administrative duties of his office; only thus can he gain a true view of the relations of the parts of the library and plan for harmonious results.

The basement plan is similar to the plan of the first floor. Underneath the reference-room, with an entrance from Eighth street, is the newspaper reading-room, a beautiful, light room, entirely above ground, though nominally in the basement story. It has mosaic floor and marble baseboards, that it may be easily cleaned, and especial care has been taken to provide for thorough ventilation. In other parts of the basement are situated the unpacking-room, with book-lifts and service stairway connecting with the catalogers' room; the bindery; the delivery-station room; and dressing-rooms; janitor's room, and various offices. All public toilet-rooms for both institutions are confined to this floor that, being massed, they may be properly cared for by attendants.

Rooms in the second story are allotted to various special uses, such as, possibly, a special library of the literature of art as applied to manufactures and trades; a pedagogical library; Milwaukee collections, etc.

The space on the second floor is somewhat limited, because the reference-room extends through both stories. The third story gives in the extreme southeastern corner a well-appointed lecture-room, seating about 400. Over the reference-room is a large skylighted room, well adapted for the exhibition of art collections of many kinds. It is hoped that the library may become in this room the centre of public education in such matters, by giving this room for loan exhibitions. Any provision for a permanent art gallery in the building is made unnecessary by the beautiful Layton gallery in another part of the city.

The museum-rooms are less composite in arrangement, and, besides the necessary administrative offices, are mainly large free halls for the exhibition of specimens.

THERESA WEST, Librarian,



WILLIAMS FREE LIBRARY, BEAVER DAM, WIS.

THE HISTORY OF A MODEL LIBRARY.

MANY towns in Wisconsin are waiting for some wealthy citizen to build and endow a library. Libraries thus founded are not the best. The library that grows out of the sacrifices of the people—the one which they unitedly labor for—is the most efficient. When, from small beginnings, they have gained a fair library, when they have learned by experience to manage it wisely, it will attract gifts.

As an illustration of this, the history of the Williams Free Library at Beaver Dam may be used. In 1884 Beaver Dam had a population of somewhat less than 4000. A number of fruitless efforts had been made to establish a library. In the summer of that year a number of citizens met to discuss the advisability of getting a vote on the question of establishing a library under the state law. It was finally agreed that such a proposition would be defeated unless public sentiment could be educated by a practical illustration of the blessings flowing from such a library. A popular subscription of \$1200 was raised, the individual subscriptions ranging from \$2 to \$50; the use, rent free, of a room in the city hall was obtained; \$700 was expended in books and a library was opened on the first day of December. The room was opened two afternoons and evenings of each week. It was free,

and people were not only invited but urged to draw books. The superintendent of schools secured the active co-operation of the teachers, and thus the children carried the books into many homes which could not be reached by other means. After four months of this object teaching, in April, 1885, the citizens, by a vote of two to one, decided to accept and maintain this library as their own.

It soon became necessary to keep the library open three afternoons and three evenings of each week and Saturday mornings. Societies for active library work were formed and a reference department began to grow. Children and their elders were allowed access to the shelves, and tables were placed to give all opportunities for study. With a few leaders, general reading gave place to study, and habits of independent research were developed. The use of indexes and of the best reference-books became more common, and fellow-students learned from each other how to glean needed knowledge more quickly and accurately.

The room became crowded, and in 1886 the common council, in addition to levying the annual tax, purchased a building adjoining the city hall and gave the library the use of a much larger room. The children drew their parents in increasing numbers, and the wider demand made

larger accessions of books necessary. In four years this room was frequently too crowded for comfortable work.

In April, 1890, one of the leading citizens, Hon. J. J. Williams, who had been quietly watching the loving care with which the poor boys and girls carried the books to and from the library, said to the board of directors: "If you will secure a suitable site I will expend \$25,000 in erecting a library building and give it to the city." The offer was quickly accepted, and an excellent site in the heart of the city was bought by the common council at a cost of \$12,200. The vote to make this purchase was unanimous and hearty, and was cordially endorsed by the citizens. Before the building was completed another citizen, William Drown, had left to the library, at his death, \$10,000 as an endowment. And thus through the influences of its own kindly beneficences this library won in one year \$47,000 in cheerful gifts, besides the annual tax levy. Five times this sum given without the aid and co-operation of the people would not have made this institution of so much worth to the mass of citizens.

While a grateful public has inscribed on the beautiful building "Williams Free Library," and has placed a tablet in its portals to the memory of Mr. Drown, it still feels a sense of ownership and a pride of possession that make its halls and treasures a common property and a common blessing.

THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN WISCONSIN.

THE three great agencies in the development of public libraries in Wisconsin have been the lyceum, private benefaction, and the press.

To the popularity of the lyceum of a generation ago may be attributed the establishment of no less than 30 public libraries that met expenses, in whole or in part, by revenue derived from courses of lectures, etc.

With the waning of prestige of the lecture-platform came also loss of interest in library associations. The state is dotted with the wrecks of these institutions. Some of them, however, were wise enough to bequeath their stores to cities that gladly assumed the control and the burden of expense. The most conspicuous of these early-time library organizations was that of the Young Men's Association of Milwaukee, which was organized on December 8, 1847. For 20 years the society led a prosperous existence. After 1867 came a period of discouragement and debt. For 10 years the library led a hand-to-mouth existence. In the fall of 1877 the first open suggestion was made that the Young Men's Association should transfer its books to the city, in trust, as the foundation of a free municipal library. Special enabling acts were passed by the legislature, and in March, 1878, the city formally took possession of the library.

Another noteworthy example of the association library was that of the Madison Institute, organized in April, 1854. The Madison Free Public Library is the direct heir of this organization.

In 1857, in the little isolated, ice-bound village of Bayfield, there was formed an organization known as the Bayfield Lyceum, which met during the winter evenings for debate and entertainment. The lyceum was merged with the Bayfield Library Association in 1875. Interest waned, however, and in 1889 the library which the association had accumulated was given to the town. It is now maintained by taxation.

In 1858 a library association was formed in Waupun. Edward Hillyer was elected clerk and librarian of the association, a position which he held without remuneration for over 20 years. Mr. Hillyer also gave the use of a large room in his building, free of charge. In 1880 the library passed by contract into the possession of Mr. Hillyer, who maintained it until 1895, when he transferred the library to the city of Waupun for an annuity of \$90 during the remainder of his life. Subscribers pay \$2 a year, or 5 cents a volume.

In the summer of 1860 a meeting of the prominent citizens of Sparta was held for the purpose of organizing a library association. The library was first organized under the name of Young Men's Library Association, and was managed under that name until May 8, 1874, when it was changed from the old form and re-organized under the state law.

The Fond du Lac Public Library is the outgrowth of an association library (1863) modelled upon that of the Young Men's Association of Milwaukee. The receipts of the library were for awhile augmented by the proceeds from lecture courses, until the expenditures began to exceed the revenue. In May, 1876, a resolution was adopted instructing the officers to turn the books and property over to the city, provided the city would establish and maintain a free reading-room and public library. In February, 1877, all the books, numbering 1500 volumes, and other property were formally delivered to the city.

To the Young Men's Association of Janesville, organized April 10, 1865, may be attrib-



READING-ROOM, MABEL TANTER MEMORIAL BUILDING.



MABEL TAINTER MEMORIAL BUILDING, MENOMONIE, WIS.

uted the credit of founding the present free public library in Janesville.

The Black River Falls Library was established late in the '60's, by a number of young men who controlled the library until 1874, when it was turned over to the city.

The Oshkosh Library Association was organized in 1868. It has recently turned over its books to the Free City Library of Oskosh, which opened April 1, 1896.

11 of Wisconsin's libraries have been established, in whole or part, by private benefaction. The pride of Menomonie is the Mabel Tainter Memorial Building, which was formally opened to the public in 1889. It was erected by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Tainter, at a cost of \$125,000, in memory of their daughter, Mabel Tainter. The building was presented to an organization known as the Mabel Tainter Literary, Library and Educational Society. It is used for several public and private purposes. The building is 80 by 90 feet, with two stories and a basement, giving it, practically, three floors. It is constructed of Dunsville sandstone. The basement, or first floor, is used for social gatherings, Sunday-school, and other purposes, being provided with kitchen, ladies' sewing-room, etc. On the second floor, or main floor proper, are the library, reading-room, and stage. The auditorium seats about 500 persons. The G. A. R. and Woman's Relief Corps rooms are located on the third floor. The building is illuminated with electric lights and lavishly fitted and furnished. The library contains about 6000 books, and is free to inhabitants of both city and county. This library will be the distributing point for the Stout travelling libraries of Dunn County.

The La Crosse Public Library was dedicated to the public on November 20, 1888. It was the gift of one of its former townsmen, Governor C. C. Washburn, who bequeathed \$50,000 to establish and maintain a public library. The trustees divided the bequest into three distinct funds: \$12,500 being set aside for the purchase

of suitable grounds and the erection of a library building; a sum not exceeding \$7500 for the purchase of books; and the remainder was to constitute an investment or revenue fund. The Young Men's Library Association of La Crosse, which had maintained a library for nearly 20 years, then sold its books to the public library for \$5000, which sum, together with \$2000, it gave to the building fund of the new library. Besides the interest on the endowment, the library receives an additional appropriation of \$1500 a year from the city of La Crosse.

In 1887 Mrs. E. E. Vaughn gave the income from \$50,000 worth of real estate, for the establishment and permanent maintenance of a public library at Ashland.

T. B. Scott bequeathed \$10,000 to Merrill, Wis., and a large amount to Grand Rapids, for library purposes.

The Jones Library of Manitowoc was founded in 1868, through the liberality of K. K. Jones, now of Quincy, Ill., who donated \$2000 for the purpose.

The Belleville Public Library was established by H. E. Story, in 1876, as a private circulating library. When the number of its volumes reached 1000 the library was given to the city, which has since supported it by a one-mill tax.

Rufus B. Kellogg gave the sum of \$15,000 as an endowment for a library at Green Bay. The interest on this amount has recently been supplemented by an appropriation from the city council.

To Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mann the library at Two Rivers is under great obligation for the lot upon which the library building stands, as well as generous donations of books and money.

Oliver Harwood, formerly of Wauwatosa, Wis., left a bequest of \$7000 to be spent for educational purposes. The interest on one-half of this amount is given the Harwood Public Library at Wauwatosa.

The donations to the Beaver Dam Public Li-

brary have been spoken of elsewhere in this issue.

The libraries at Oconomowoc, Kenosha, and Mineral Point are free to all, and are supported by subscriptions and donations. The Ripon and Whitewater libraries are supported, in the former case, by donations and a fee of five cents per book; in the latter by subscriptions and receipts from entertainments.

Twenty-six of our libraries are organized under the state law. The history of the formation of many of these will be given in the first biennial report of the library commission.

The prospect for future library growth in Wisconsin is hopeful. The progressive spirit that is founding free libraries and leading them into broader lines of usefulness in other parts of the nation is felt within our borders. Our list of libraries are annually increasing. A better public sentiment is steadily gaining ground. The collections of our state historical society have grown to be the subject of a worthy state pride and will soon be as worthily housed. The chief city of the state is erecting a public library building that will be noteworthy among the public edifices of the country. Our growing school libraries are educating a generation that will demand more libraries and be able to use them more wisely. Teachers are anxiously inquiring how they may secure good libraries and use them most profitably.

The state university and the normal schools are rapidly making their libraries more efficient agencies in the training of their students. The state library association and the free library commission are bending every effort toward the organization of new libraries and the improvement of those already established, believing that "in the work of popular education it is, after all, not the few great libraries but the thousand small that may do most good for the people."

TOWNSHIP SCHOOL LIBRARIES OF WISCONSIN.

THE Wisconsin constitution (1847) provides that a portion of the income of the state school fund shall be used to provide a "suitable library" for each "common school." This unusual recognition of the value of school libraries was due to a number of vigorous young men from central and western New York, who were the dominant spirits in the convention which framed the constitution. They had been educated in schools which were supplied with volumes too weighty in character to be popular, but whose effect on the minds of the more ambitious students had been stimulating and inspiring. As might be expected, the first school libraries bought in our state were modelled after their New York predecessors and were read only by the few. On account of the character of the books purchased, and because the income from the school fund was small, the first efforts to secure a general system of school libraries failed. Individual schools bought libraries with the moneys raised by local taxes or received as

gifts, but the books were rarely simple and interesting, and did not grow into popularity and usefulness. The district officers and teachers were not wise enough about books to select them intelligently or to buy them cheaply.

In 1887 the State Teachers' Association secured the enactment of a township library law, which, though it went limpingly to its work, has led the way to our present excellent system. It permitted each town treasurer to withhold from the state school fund income apportioned to his town 10 cents for each person of school age to build a fund which was to be expended by the town clerk for the purpose of a township school library. The books of this library were to be distributed among the several districts of the town in proportion to their population. The town clerk was authorized and expected to collect and redistribute these books annually in such a way as to give each district an opportunity to use all books purchased. The state superintendent was directed to publish lists of books from which the clerks were required to make their selections. The first lists gave the titles of nearly 600 books, and included volumes for all grades of pupils. These books were classified by grades, and clerks were instructed to buy mainly of those adapted to the needs of the smaller children. Unfortunately many town clerks thought that they could make the children read the histories and scientific books recommended for high schools by putting no others in their libraries.

Few town clerks collected and redistributed the books, and the dislike of incurring such extra labor led many of them to oppose compliance with the law. A significant fact, in cases where the clerks attempted to make a redistribution, was the unwillingness of districts to return certain books which the teachers and pupils had learned to prize. In a town of 10 districts the school which had secured the only set of the "Young folks' cyclopædias," and had grown to rely upon them for daily service, was naturally reluctant to see them leave on a ten years' journey. These facts led to a change, in 1891, in the list of books recommended by the state superintendent and in the methods of selection by the clerk. After an extended correspondence with teachers and librarians a short list of the most helpful books was made and published, and clerks were advised to buy enough of each of these to supply each district. A list of 40 other choice books was added on account of the occasional large districts. Lists of the best books for graded and high schools were still selected and published, but they were sent only to the teachers and school officers of the villages and cities. The new plan secured to each district the best books, and brought about a sense of ownership which resulted in a better care of the libraries. It also obviated the necessity of making the annual collections. The new method met unanimous approval, and made it easier to secure a fuller compliance with the law.

The state superintendent's lists gave the prices at which the books could be bought of a

reputable firm which had made the lowest offer. The clerks were not obliged to buy of the firm whose prices were quoted, but they uniformly did so, and the prices at which the Wisconsin schools are supplied are lower than those given in any similar lists. The fact that the town clerks were not required to buy of any one house, but could send out their own lists for competition, has done much to prevent any suspicion of jobbery or favoritism.

From 1887 to 1894, about one-fourth of the towns purchased libraries each year, and about one-half of the schools had libraries at the close of the latter year. In 1895 the legislature, by unanimous votes in both branches, made the purchase of school libraries under this system mandatory, and now each country school in Wisconsin must have a school library with annual accessions. While the amount of money to be used for each country school does not average more than \$5 annually, it is sufficient in a few years to secure a number of the great children's classics, a few entertaining volumes of stories, adventures, and biographies, a few works of reference, and the most helpful, simple volumes of information supplementary to the regular text-book work.

While the schools are in session the libraries are in charge of the teachers, but in the vacations they are frequently cared for by the district clerks. Such volumes as are not needed for reference in the school-rooms are loaned to the pupils for home use, under such restrictions as are usually imposed by public libraries. The rules for the circulation of books are made by the state superintendent, and he furnishes tablets on which the rules are printed to be pasted in each book.

When the libraries were first placed in the schools, the teachers were generally young people whose range of reading had been limited. Where they used the library books at all, many made them simply another means of keeping the children grinding. By persistent work at teachers' institutes and associations, through the higher schools, and by official circulars and educational journals, the leading teachers and librarians have developed a broader view of the purpose of the books of the school libraries, and they are now much more largely used to give children a pleasure in reading that will lead to an enduring love for wholesome literature. Many of the younger teachers of our schools of to-day have had the advantage of wider reading in early life than their predecessors, and they are coming to their work with a keener appreciation of good literature and more of sympathy for the books that give enjoyment and inspiration.

A careful inspection of many county school libraries shows that great pains must constantly be taken to secure better care of the books. In many schools the volumes are piled upon tables, under the blackboards, and are covered with dust and chalk. The publications of many well-known houses are poorly bound and begin to fall to pieces after very little use. School officers cannot conveniently get the books rebound, or they neglect them till some of the leaves are

lost. The soiled and broken volumes destroy the wholesome respect for books that each child should feel and lead to carelessness in handling them. The present enthusiasm for school libraries is more likely to be checked by complaints that the books wear out quickly and are filthy than from any other causes. Each year some schools are buying neat cases for their books and more teachers are learning to use books carefully, but progress in this direction is too slow.

Much courage would be given the workers of reform in this line if more publishing houses would follow the example of one or two and bind books for school libraries more substantially and put them in covers that would not so easily show stains. This is a reform that can readily be secured by teachers and librarians, and one which will remove an obstacle in the way of the greater usefulness of both school and public libraries.

Much also remains to be done in the way of training teachers to use libraries intelligently, but there are so many powerful agencies enlisted in this cause that the work is progressing hopefully and rapidly. The normal schools and high schools, which have some share in training nearly all the district school teachers, are generally supplied with good libraries which are used to better purpose every year. The increasing intelligence in regard to young people's reading which has grown out of the discussions about the township library law has helped all classes of school libraries and has directed the purchase of books for home and circulating libraries in better lines.

Side by side with the development of school libraries has grown an increased interest and intelligence in the study of literature in the schools, and the reading of masterpieces is often taking the place of the perfunctory grind in "readers," even in some of the district schools. The State Teachers' Association has recommended for country schools a course of reading, which includes, among other books and selections, Scudder's "Fables and folk stories," Hawthorne's "Wonder book," "Tanglewood tales," and "Biographical stories," the stories of Hans Andersen, Kingsley's "Water babies," Ruskin's "King of the Golden River," Lamb's "Tales from Shakespeare," and poems from Longfellow and Whittier. Two or three country superintendents are requiring their candidates for positions as teachers to know something of the literature of power. There has been but little of this wider work as yet, but enough, by comparison with the past, to make the outlook hopeful.

The Wisconsin system of school libraries has brought many blessings to the schools and to all connected with them which would have been impossible had we waited for the schools to act independently. The reading of thousands of boys and girls is being directed along good channels, and the effect of this must show itself with cumulative force in the near future.

FRANK A. HUTCHINS, *Chairman Wisconsin Free Library Commission.*

LIBRARY LEGISLATION IN WISCONSIN.

THE importance of public libraries was early recognized in Wisconsin. At the first session of the territorial legislature, in 1836, a joint resolution was adopted which authorized the purchase of a library for the use of the territory.

The next legislative enactment was that of February 19, 1839, incorporating the Milwaukee Lyceum, having for its object "the advancement of useful knowledge, by discourses or lectures, by the formation of a library, . . . and also the collection and preservation of such facts and specimens as will tend to illustrate the antiquities, the civil and natural history of Wisconsin."

The first general library law was passed in 1840. This law made it "lawful for any number of persons, not less than 10, in any one county or town in this territory, who shall subscribe not less than \$50, to form themselves into a corporation, under such corporate names as they shall adopt, for the purpose of procuring and erecting a public library." It also provided for "not less than five nor more than seven trustees," holding office for one year. It permitted corporations to "purchase and hold personal and real estate to any amount not exceeding \$3000 in addition to the value of books."

Tracing the history of library legislation, in chronological order, we find that the constitution of Wisconsin (1848) required that a portion of the income of the school fund should be applied to the "purchase of suitable libraries for the common schools."

In 1849 the general library law was repealed by Chapter 157, Revised Statutes of 1849, which substituted therefor Chapter 49, Revised Statutes, 1849. It provided that "Any seven or more proprietors of a library may form themselves into a corporation, under such corporate names as they may adopt, for the purpose of enlarging, regulating, and using such library, and for that purpose any justice of the peace may, on the application of five or more of the proprietors, issue an order to one of them, directing him to call a meeting of the proprietors, at the time and place expressed in the order, for the purpose of forming such corporation, and such meeting shall be called by posting up a notice containing the substance of such order, in at least two public places in the town where such library is kept, at least seven days before the time of meeting. Any seven or more of the proprietors of such library, met in pursuance of such notice, may choose a president, a clerk, a librarian, collector, treasurer, and such other officers as they may deem necessary," etc.

In 1872 was passed the first law "authorizing cities and towns to establish free public libraries and reading-rooms."

The first section of this law empowered the city council of each incorporated city, not exceeding in population 50,000 inhabitants, and the board of trustees of each incorporated village in this state, to establish and maintain a public library and reading-room for the use and

the benefit of the inhabitants of such city or incorporated village, and to levy a tax not exceeding one mill on the dollar, on all taxable property of the city or village for such purpose, to be known as the "library fund."

This law in its entirety had many serious faults. It left the amount to be appropriated for the support of the library to the whim and caprice of the city council, etc. In 1876 a law was enacted which amended many of the objectionable features of the law of 1872. This law has since been amended in turn and now reads as follows:

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY LAW — NOW OPERATIVE.

"Section 931 of the revised statutes of Wisconsin, as amended by Chapter 173 of the laws of 1893, as amended by Chapter 330 of the laws of 1895.

"*How established.* — The common council of every city not exceeding 50,000 inhabitants, and the village board, or board of trustees, of every village, and the town board of every town containing over 2000 inhabitants, shall have power to establish and maintain a public library and reading-room, and for such purpose may annually levy and cause to be collected as other general taxes are collected, a tax not exceeding one mill on each dollar of taxable property of such city, town, or village, or may set aside and appropriate a sum not to exceed 10 per cent. of the money received in any year for licenses issued for vending or dealing in spirituous, vinous, or fermented liquors, to constitute a library fund, which fund shall be kept by the treasurer, separate and apart from other money of the city, town, or village, and to be used exclusively for such purposes; provided, that no tax shall be levied without the same be first submitted to a vote, and be approved by a majority of the votes cast at such election in such city, town, or village on such question.

"*Directors: how appointed, vacancies.* — Section 932: For the government of such library and reading-room there shall be a board of nine directors, appointed by the mayor of such city, the president of such village, or the chairman of such town, with the approval of the respective common council, village board, or town board, from among the citizens thereof at large; and not more than one member of the council, or village or town board shall at any one time be such director. Such directors shall hold their office for three years from the first day of July, in the year of the appointment, and until their successors are appointed; but upon their first appointment they shall divide themselves, at their first meeting, by lot, into three classes, one-third for one year, one-third for two years, and one-third for three years, and their terms shall expire accordingly. All vacancies shall be immediately reported by the directors to the proper council, town or village board, and be filled by appointment in like manner, and if an unexpired term, for the residue of the term only. No compensation whatever shall be paid or allowed any director.

"Officers and duties of directors. — Section 933: Said directors shall, immediately after their appointment, meet and organize, by the election of one of their number president, and by the election of such other officers as they may deem necessary. They shall make and adopt such by-laws, rules, and regulations for their own guidance and for the government of the library and reading-room, as may be expedient, not inconsistent with this chapter. They shall have the exclusive control of the expenditures of all moneys, collected for the library fund, and the supervision, care, and custody of the rooms or buildings constructed, leased, or set apart for that purpose, and such money shall be drawn from the treasury, by the proper officers, upon the properly authenticated voucher of the board of directors, without being otherwise audited. They may, with the approval of the mayor and common council of such city, the town board of such town, or the president and village board of such village, without which no lease, purchase, or contract therefor shall be of any validity, lease and occupy, or purchase, or erect on purchased grounds, an appropriate building, not, however, employing in such purchase or building more than half the income in any one year. They may appoint a librarian and assistants, and prescribe rules for their conduct.

"Library to be free. — Section 934: Every library and reading-room established under this chapter shall be forever free for the use of the inhabitants of the city, town, or village where located, always subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as the library board may find necessary to adopt and publish, in order to render the use of said library and reading-room of the greatest benefit to the greatest number; and they may exclude and cut off from the use of said library and reading-room any and all persons who shall wilfully violate such rules.

"Annual report. — Section 935: The said board of directors shall make an annual report to the city council, town board, board of trustees or village board, stating the condition of their trust, the various sums of money received from the library fund, and from all other sources, and how such money has been expended; the number of books and periodicals on hand; the number added by purchase, gift, or otherwise during the year; the number lost or missing; the number of books loaned out, and the general character and kind of such books, with such other statistics, information, and suggestions as they may deem of general interest.

"Donations, etc., to vest in board. — Section 936: All persons desirous of making donations of money, personal property, or real estate for the benefit of such library, shall have the right to vest the title to the money, personal property, or real estate so donated, in the board of directors created under this chapter, to be held and controlled by such board, when accepted, according to the terms of the deed or gift, devise, or bequest of such property, and as to such property the said board shall be held and considered to be special trustees."

THE WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION.

THE American Library Association meeting in 1894 was an important link in the chain of causes that led to the creation of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. At that meeting and during a preceding tour of the East, Miss L. E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, met some of the members of the eastern commission, and returned to her home with an unconcealed anxiety to secure such a commission for Wisconsin. At the holiday vacation, in the same year, and only two weeks before the legislature assembled, the State Teachers' Association held its annual meeting and gave an evening to the general subject of the relations of the libraries and the schools. During the evening Miss Stearns read a paper showing so clearly the many ways in which public libraries can vivify and broaden the work of the schools, that it excited an interest and enthusiasm whose effect has since been felt continuously and with increasing force. When the legislature met, a bill, drafted by Mr. F. A. Hutchins, providing for the present state commission, was introduced, and received such warm and active support from the Wisconsin Library Association and from the teachers that it found a friendly feeling in the legislature, and was approved by the committee on education. The legislature was fairly overwhelmed, however, with demands for appropriations for educational and charitable purposes and with requests for new commissions; and all bills carrying appropriations were referred to a joint committee, with an implied understanding that most of them were to be recommended for indefinite postponement. Notwithstanding a friendly feeling in the committee, the bill for the proposed commission would have been put to sleep, for two years at least, except for the personal efforts of Frank A. Hutchins and Senator J. H. Stout, who introduced it. Mr. Stout was so thoroughly satisfied of the urgent need of such a commission that he convinced the members of the committee that the future would justify their support of the measure. The bill passed without further opposition and by unanimous votes.

The new law provided for a commission of five members, two of whom were to be appointed by the governor, one for a term of five years and one for four years. The president of the state university, the state superintendent of schools, and the secretary of the State Historical Society were made members *ex-officio*. The duties of the commission were defined to be "to give advice and counsel to all free libraries in the state, and to all communities which may propose to establish them, as to the best means of establishing and administering such libraries, the selection of books, cataloging, and other details of library management. The commission may also send its members to aid in organizing new libraries or in improving those already established." The commission was also directed to make a report to the governor biennially, and to have 1000 copies published by the state printer. An annual appropriation of

\$500 was made to defray the incidental and necessary expenses of the commission, but no member was to be allowed any compensation for services.

The bill was passed in April, 1895, but the governor did not make the appointments till the following November, when he named F. A. Hutchins, of Baraboo, for four years, and Miss L. E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, for the period of five years. Mr. Hutchins and Miss Stearns are, respectively, president and secretary of the Wisconsin Library Association. All the *ex-officio* members of the commission—President C. K. Adams, State Superintendent J. Q. Emery, and Secretary R. G. Thwaites—met with the appointees at Madison, December 3, 1895, and organized by electing Mr. Hutchins chairman and Miss Stearns secretary.

Before the close of the year the commission had sent out a number of circulars to the librarians, teachers, and editors of the state, and had issued a handbook of 16 pages. This little pamphlet, sent free of charge, gave the state laws in regard to public libraries, suggestions as to their establishment and administration, information concerning the purpose of the commission, something of interest about the national and state associations, a list of aids and guides in library economy, and of helpful books and periodicals.

The commission finds many avenues of labor, and each one that is followed leads to many new ones. Through the generous gift of Mr. Stout, the chairman of the commission is enabled to give his entire time to the promotion of the various library interests of the state.

The trend of the commission's work may possibly be best shown by the following quotation from its first circular:

"The commission especially requests the active co-operation of the teachers of the state to the end that a close alliance may be formed by which the public libraries and public schools may work unitedly in the general cause of education."

The commission expects to get the aid of the teachers of the state in an effort to secure better popular ideals of library work, with the hope that an educated public sentiment will demand a better administration of the libraries already founded, and the creation of a system of libraries so complete that every man, woman, and child in Wisconsin may have the opportunity to read the best books of the language without money and without price.

THE WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE formation of the Wisconsin Library Association was brought about by the members of the American Library Association in the state. Having themselves felt the benefit of the exchange of ideas as to purposes and methods, and the stimulus of the sense of companionship and co-operation of the national society, they were

anxious that these helps should be brought within the reach of all librarians in the state. With this idea in view a conference was held in Madison, Wis., on Feb. 11, 1891, to consider the advisability of forming a Wisconsin State Library Association. The following persons were present: K. A. Linderfelt, Milwaukee; L. D. Harvey, president State Normal School, Milwaukee; R. G. Thwaites, I. S. Bradley, and Miss M. M. Oakley, of the State Historical Society Library; J. C. Freeman and E. A. Birge, professors in the state university; O. E. Wells, C. A. Hutchins, F. A. Hutchins, of the department of public instruction; Walter M. Smith, librarian of the university library; A. O. Wright, of the state board of control.

Mr. Thwaites was chosen chairman *pro tem.* and F. A. Hutchins secretary *pro tem.* A constitution was adopted, which declared the object of the association to be "to promote the library interests of the state of Wisconsin." It provided that any person interested in promoting the object of the association may become a member by vote of the executive board and payment to the treasurer of the annual assessment—50 cents. It also provided for annual meetings, and gave power to the executive board to call other meetings when deemed necessary. The following officers were elected to hold office until the first annual meeting: President, K. A. Linderfelt; Vice-president, R. G. Thwaites; Secretary and treasurer, F. A. Hutchins.

The first annual conference of the association was held at Madison, on Wednesday afternoon and evening, March 11, 1891. Twenty-nine persons were in attendance.

No formal program had been prepared, but practical questions on management of public libraries, arousing library interest, etc., were discussed. Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President K. A. Linderfelt, Milwaukee; Vice-president, R. G. Thwaites, Madison; Secretary and treasurer, F. A. Hutchins, Madison.

In compliance with a call by the officers of the association, a reunion of the members was held in the Art Institute, Chicago, July 13, 1893. Only a brief meeting was held, as the members were anxious to attend the meeting of the World's Congress of Librarians. No business was transacted.

The third conference of the association was held at Beaver Dam, Wis., commencing Tuesday evening, July 3, and closing Wednesday evening, July 4, 1894. The railroad strike seriously interfered with the attendance, but 15 persons being present. In the absence of the acting president, R. G. Thwaites, Miss West was chosen chairman. One session was devoted to children's reading, and papers were read on library administration, access to shelves, binding, purchasing, etc., followed by informal discussion. Officers elected: F. A. Hutchins, president; Walter M. Smith, vice-president; Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary and treasurer.

55 persons attended the fourth conference of the association, which was held at Mad-

ison, Wis., February 13, 14, 1895. The session opened with the president's address on "How to organize free public libraries in Wisconsin," the rest of the first session being devoted to practical aids in library economy. At the evening session President Charles Kendall Adams, of the State University, spoke on "The educational power of a library," which was followed by an address by Prof. J. C. Freeman on "Libraries and university extension." Mr. Reuben Gold Thwaites also spoke on the "Relation of the State Historical Society to local libraries." A round-table conference on selection of books, card catalog, etc., was found especially helpful. The sessions closed with a trustees' meeting at which a trustee of the Madison Free Library, Prof. Birge, spoke on "The choice of a librarian" and "The librarian from the trustees' point of view." Dr. Birge was followed by Miss West, librarian of the Milwaukee Public Library, in a complementary paper on "The trustees from the librarian's point of view." Miss Katharine L. Sharp, director Department of Library Science, Armour Institute, Chicago, read a paper on "Library school and training classes." Dr. Geo. W. Peckham, trustee of the Milwaukee Public Library and Superintendent of Schools, Milwaukee, Wis., made an address on "State library commissions."

A bill drafted by Mr. F. A. Hutchins, creating a State Library Commission which had been previously introduced into the legislature by Senator J. H. Stout, received the unanimous support of those present, and a committee of five was appointed to aid in furthering its passage. Said committee consisted of F. A. Hutchins, E. A. Birge, G. W. Peckham, R. B. Dudgeon, and Miss L. E. Stearns.

The president announced that Senator J. H. Stout, trustee of Menomonie Memorial Library, had volunteered to pay the necessary expense of a summer school in library economy in connection with the Summer School of the state. Miss Katharine L. Sharp was unanimously elected the first honorary member of the association.

Officers elected: President, F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo; Vice-president, Miss Anna H. McDonnell, Green Bay; Secretary and treasurer, Miss L. E. Stearns, Milwaukee.

FIFTH CONFERENCE.

THE fifth conference of the Wisconsin Library Association was held at Racine on Thursday and Friday, March 12 and 13, 1896. There were 105 persons present at the opening session. Among those in attendance were Senator J. H. Stout, of Menomonie, Wis., the patron of travelling libraries and the head of the movement for a library commission in the last legislature; J. N. Larned, of Buffalo; Mrs. Zella A. Dixon, librarian of the University of Chicago; Dr. G. E. Wire, Mr. W. W. Bishop, Miss Mary B. Lindsay, of Evanston, Ill.; R. G. Thwaites, secretary of the State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.; H. L. Elmendorf, secretary, A. L. A., St. Joseph, Mo.; A. H. Hopkins, assistant librarian John Crerar Library, Chi-

cago; Miss Katharine L. Sharp, director library department, Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago.

Among the Wisconsin libraries represented were those of Ashland, Beaver Dam, Beloit, De Pere, Eau Claire, Fort Atkinson, Green Bay, Janesville, Kenosha, La Crosse, Madison, Menomonie, Merrill, Milwaukee, Oconomowoc, Two Rivers and Wauwatosa. Representatives from the leading state normal schools of Wisconsin, members of the state board of control and a number of trustees of the Wisconsin libraries were also in attendance. The Milwaukee Public Library closed its circulating and reference departments during the conference, thus enabling all the assistants to attend the meeting. The meeting was held at Racine to promote the library movement in that city, it being one of the last of the large cities in the state without a public library. It is the intention of the officers of the association to change the place of meeting each year, that interest in the organization of libraries may be aroused in different localities in the state. It is also the intention of the executive committee to have the association meet in February or March, if possible, of each year, to stimulate enthusiasm at the April town elections through reports of the meetings given in the newspapers of the state.

The session at Racine opened with an address by G. W. Johnston, of Kenosha, Wis., upon the subject "How to arouse interest in the library: organization, etc." Mr. Johnston showed the value of securing the co-operation of the local paper in arousing library interest. He gave in detail the methods pursued in awakening enthusiasm for a library in his city. By appealing to the pride of the citizens, by direct, earnest, truthful appeals through the local paper, by personal calls upon workmen, business men, pastors, teachers, members of the school board, common council, and the woman's club, every class was reached and a flourishing library association was soon started. Those who desire pay a membership fee of \$2, but the books are free to all. 1600 books have already been donated to the new library (incorporated December, 1895), and two donations of \$1000 each have already been given to the library.

The next exercise was conducted by the senior class of the Department of Library Science, Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago. This was a practical exercise, showing the history of the library-book from the time a review was read until it was worn out by book-borrowers and rebound. "Reviews and bookbuying" was discussed by Miss Sarah S. Dickinson; "Ordering," Irene Warren; "Accessioning," Miss Eleanor Roper; "Classifying," Miss Mary J. Calkins; "Cataloging," Miss Margaret Mann; "Loaning," Miss Virginia R. Dodge; "Binding," Miss Maude R. Henderson; "Repairing," Miss Maude W. Straight. This exercise was one of the most helpful of the conference. The papers presented were of so practical a nature they will be incorporated in the first biennial report of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission to be issued in June or July next.

"The Library Bureau and the public library" was the subject of an address by Mr. G. B. Meleney, Chicago manager of the Library Bureau. Mr. Meleney gave a short history of the bureau, and showed that, although the province of the bureau has been extended, the wants of libraries are still considered of paramount importance. Mr. Almon Burtch, of the library department of McClurg's, Chicago, spoke on "The relation of the bookseller to the librarian." Mr. Burtch gave many practical hints, showing best methods of ordering, etc. Mr. Burtch was followed by Mr. F. W. Faxon, Boston, Mass., who spoke on the value of bound periodicals in small libraries.

The secretary of the association then talked on ways and means of advertising a library, and showed how a small library might have much of its printing done free of charge through the courtesy of the local newspaper.

At the evening session an address was delivered upon "The mission and missionaries of books," by Mr. J. N. Larned, of Buffalo, N. Y. This address was pronounced by all who heard it one of the most inspiring and helpful addresses ever delivered before a body of librarians. The lecture was tendered by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, and will be published in full in the first biennial report of that body. Mr. Larned was followed by Rev. C. S. Nickerson and Thomas M. Kearney, of Racine, Wis., both of whom spoke on the value of a library to a community. A social hour followed at the Hotel Racine, which was enlivened with music by the Temple Quartette, of Boston.

At the session on Friday morning Mr. H. L. Elmendorf, secretary of the American Library Association, spoke on the history of that organization, giving a review of what it had accomplished and bespoke the attendance of the librarians of Wisconsin at the coming meeting of the A. L. A. in Cleveland, Ohio, in September next.

Miss Katharine L. Sharp, who was director of the Summer School of Library Science at Madison last year, made a report upon the work accomplished. Upon the conclusion of the address, the secretary of the association made the announcement that the Summer School of Library Science would be held during July and August, 1896, upon broader lines than the course of last year—extending over a period of six weeks. The statement elicited applause, which was renewed when it became known that the expenses for the course were the gift of Senator J. H. Stout, who had paid the expenses of the initial venture.

Miss Theresa West, librarian, Milwaukee Public Library, then made a talk on "The relation of the trustee to the librarian and library." It has been very well said that the position of trustee of a public library is more important, more honorable, and contains a field of greater usefulness than that of any other honorary position. Under the newer policy of the public library as an aggressive rather than a passive force, the endowments which bring success in almost any

line of human activity may be turned to account in the management of a library. In all relations which the library bears to the community as a whole, or, for instance, with the state authorities, the city government, or the school officials, the trustees should conduct the business. In all relations with individuals the librarian should act for the trustees. In some cases trustees consider their chief duty to be the holding of the purse-strings; but sometimes their energies might be better employed in efforts to fill the purse. The trustees have no more important duty than the selection of the librarian. They may sometimes be compelled to forego technical training; they should never forego personal worth and executive strength. No library can occupy its full position of influence in the community unless it is governed by an intelligent, interested board of trustees.

Mr. Frank A. Hutchins, chairman Wisconsin Library Commission and president of the Wisconsin Library Association, followed with a paper on "Free travelling libraries for farming communities." Mr. Hutchins gave an account of a trip through the state in the interest of travelling libraries, and announced that Senator J. H. Stout, desiring to test the practicability of the travelling library, would shortly start 16 libraries, of 30 volumes each, at his own expense, in his county. Dr. E. A. Birge, dean of the University of Wisconsin, and in charge of its University Extension work, made an address on "Travelling libraries and University Extension." President L. D. Harvey, of the Milwaukee Normal School, in discussing the matter of travelling libraries, held that what was most needed was a man to go out into the country, as a travelling agent for the library commission. "Such a man," he said, "could build up a sentiment in favor of travelling libraries in every district visited. It is the work of a man who believes in the thing which accomplishes wonders."

Rev. S. E. Lathrop, of Washburn, Wis., said that during the last 15 years he had assisted in collecting 15,000 volumes for free public libraries. "In northern Wisconsin," he said, "there are a hundred growing towns, just in the plastic state where libraries would be of inestimable value." W. J. Starr, trustee of the public library of Eau Claire, Wis., spoke upon the needs of some system whereby those living in the country may receive the benefit of city libraries. Reuben Gold Thwaites, secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wis., followed with a short talk on the value of preserving files of newspapers, etc., for the benefit of future historians.

By a rising vote, Mr. J. N. Larned was elected an honorary member of the Library Association.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are: President, F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo, Wis.; Vice-president, Miss Louise Sutermeister, Eau Claire, Wis.; Secretary and treasurer, Miss L. E. Stearns, Milwaukee, Wis.

L. E. STEARNS, *Secretary*.

WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE.

At the meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, held at Madison, Feb. 14, 1895, the subject of a summer school of library science in Wisconsin was first broached.

A paper was read describing existing facilities for library training, and at its close there was discussion of the adaptability of existing methods to a short course of elementary work.

A committee composed of Dr. E. A. Birge, dean of the College of Letters and Science of the University of Wisconsin; Mr. F. A. Hutchins, president of the Wisconsin Library Association, and Senator James H. Stout, of Menomonie, was appointed to confer with the director of the Department of Library Science at Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago.

Senator Stout, with his usual generosity, offered to bear the expense of the course for the summer of 1895 if the committee wished to try the experiment. The committee accepted the offer, added the course to the Summer School of the State University, and engaged the writer of this report as director of the work.

The following notice was inserted in the University of Wisconsin Summer School announcement for 1895, and mailed to libraries in the state and on the borders of neighboring states:

"LIBRARY SCIENCE.

1. "School libraries. A general course on the use of the school library designed for teachers. The purpose and scope of these libraries will be emphasized and special attention will be given to methods of reference work with pupils. Instruction will be limited to the subject of school libraries and will not be adapted to those who are studying public library problems."

2. "Elementary library methods. This course supplements the former as a laboratory course and both should be taken. No text-book will be used, but practical work will be given to each student in the branches of library economy necessary in a school library. The simplest methods of arranging, cataloging, lending, and caring for the books will be taught, and no previous knowledge will be assumed. The course will not cover all departments of library economy, as it is for small libraries only."

It will be seen from this extract from the announcement that great stress was laid on the elementary and limited character of the work, and on the fact that it was primarily for teachers.

Results proved, however, that the course was wanted by librarians of small libraries and by library assistants, and that these were kept from attending by the wording of the announcement.

No definite course could be laid out till the needs of the applicants were ascertained. These called for general library methods, not for school library work, and the following course was therefore offered:

"LIBRARY SCIENCE.

"Program, 2-3 p.m.

"The course given from 4 to 5 will be specially adapted to school libraries." [For tabulated program of course see table at end of this article.]

The instruction occupied three hours each day and from two to three hours of independent work was expected of each student.

The course followed the treatment of a book in logical order through all processes in the library, from the time it was added to the accession or invoice book, until it had been classified, cataloged, loaned to reader, repaired, and rebound.

The work each day was also graded. The first hour was strictly technical, the second hour was a general talk on allied library topics, and the third hour was devoted to reference work and such small part of the technical work as was thought necessary in a school library. This last hour was all that was wanted by the teachers.

No text-books were used; the instruction was entirely by lecture, demonstration, and laboratory work. For example, one principle of the card catalog would be explained in class by means of the blackboard and samples, then a number of books illustrating this principle would be assigned for independent work, and the result, when handed in, would be carefully revised and returned to the student. Thus at the end of the course each student had a full set of samples used in each department of the work.

In classification the principles were taught by actually classifying books, and students were given the practice with the notation of both the Dewey Decimal classification and the Cutter Expansive classification, as these two systems are most widely used. In ordering, the details of making an order and of keeping necessary records were followed by a discussion of the general principles of bookbuying.

Practical accession work was supplemented by a study of the copyright law and the questions concerning duplicates and gifts.

Instruction in binding was illustrated by visits to the two largest binderies in town, where the proprietors spared neither time nor effort to fully explain all processes to the students.

The hour which was specially adapted to teachers began with a consideration of the Wisconsin library laws, and then gave most attention to the methods of reference-work, and to lists of general reference-books which should be in the school libraries, or to which students should be referred by the teacher. The books on each list were carefully explained and characterized as to their contents and reference value, and the students were expected to examine them.

This work would have been impossible without a liberal supply of books, and the director wishes publicly to thank the University library, the State Historical Society, the Public library, and the library of the Department of Public Instruction for special privileges allowed. The heartiest co-operation and sympathy were shown on all sides. The superintendent of public instruction gave access to the library of selected books for the schools, and Mr. Gettle, library clerk of the department, gave the students a very valuable talk on school libraries. Mr. Smith, of the University library, talked to the class on reference methods and on the Cutter

classification. Miss Stearns, of Milwaukee, gave them valuable suggestions on reading for the young. The Library Bureau of Chicago made an exhibit of library appliances and supplies, that the students might have object lessons, and Mr. Smith gave them a convenient place in the University library.

It will be seen that the course was general in scope though simple in character, but it was not so elementary as to be beneath any who wish to keep up with new methods.

The part of the course which was adapted to teachers was kept so entirely separate as to give them a connected course if they did not wish the more technical part.

The director felt doubt in the beginning as to the advisability of this short course, but a careful study of last summer's work and the results has convinced her that the work is practical, and that, as limited in the outline, it is not offering a harmful short-cut to superficial training. It is rather suggestive and is kept so simple as to give the beginner an idea of the scope of the work and to furnish her with a skeleton upon which to build.

References were continually given to fuller information in such sources as the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, "Denver public library handbook," and Plummer's "Hints to small libraries."

The time was too short to give any definite idea of cataloging.

Many assurances were received from librarians of small libraries throughout the state, that, if they had understood that the course was for them and not primarily for teachers, they would have come, and that they would come another year if the work should be continued.

After thoughtful consideration of the subject, the following conclusions have been reached:

1. A summer course in library science is needed in the West.
2. Such a course is practicable if kept simple.
3. It should be advertised for librarians with special features for teachers.
4. It should last six weeks in order to devote the extra two weeks to cataloging.

The course outlined above proved so satisfactory to instructor and students that it is recommended without other change than additional time for cataloging.

There is a demand for this work from other states. Thus far this is the only attempt besides the Amherst Summer School, which has been firmly established since 1891. The University of Nebraska library advertised a two weeks' course last summer in connection with the State Institute, but was obliged to abandon it for lack of students. New York State library is talking of a summer course in 1896. None of these movements interferes with the work in this section. Mr. Dewey, director of the New York State Library School, the pioneer in library training, in referring to this summer school writes, "I consider the University of Wisconsin the best place in the Northwest for this work."

Senator Stout generously inaugurated this new branch of the educational work in Wisconsin. It has been but an experiment and needs the test of at least another year, now that its scope has been defined and understood, and it is sincerely hoped that some way may be found to announce a six weeks' course in library science at the University of Wisconsin Summer School in 1896. KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director*.

TABULATED PROGRAM OF LIBRARY COURSE.

2-3 p.m.	3-4 p.m.	4-5 p.m.
July 9. Accession.	Bookbuying.	Wisconsin lib. laws.
" 10. "	"	Reference lists.
" 11. Serials.	Accession details.	Periodical indexes.
" 12. Book nos.	Copyright.	Atlases. Dictionaries,
		Encyclopædias.
" 15. Shelf-list.	Pamphlets.	Handbooks of general
		information.
" 16. Cataloging.	Cataloging supplies.	Handbooks of history.
" 17. "	Classification.	" " literature.
" 18. "	"	" " "
" 19. "	"	Special encyclopædias.
" 22. "	"	" " "
" 23. "	"	A. L. A. catalog.
" 24. "	"	Reference methods.
" 25. "	"	Reading for the young.
" 26. "	Printed finding lists.	" " "
" 29. Binding.	American Lib. Assn. and	Buying for school lib.
	State " "	
" 30. Repair.	Library schools.	Classifying " "
" 31. Loan.	Lib. & Univ. extension.	Cataloging " "
Aug. 1. "	Travelling libraries.	Loan system for school
		lib.
" 1. "	Home " "	
" 2. "	Library legislation.	Binding and repair.

NOTE.—A Summer School of Library Science, under the direction of Miss Katharine L. Sharp, will be held at Madison, Wis., beginning July 6, and closing August 14, 1896, a six weeks' course. The course is intended for librarians of the smaller libraries, assistants, and teachers.

The rate of tuition will be \$15.00 for the term. Circulars containing full information may be had by addressing Dr. E. A. Birge, Madison, Wis.; Miss Katharine L. Sharp, Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, Ill.; and Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.—ED.

FREE CIRCULATING LIBRARIES IN WISCONSIN.*

NAME OF LIBRARY.	Town.	Population 1890.	Library Established.	City Control.	Income.	Endowment.	Number of Volumes.	Annual Circulation.	Reading-Room?	Location of Library.	Open Shelves?	Age Limit?	Librarian.
Vaughn.....	Ashland.....	9,956	1887	.....	\$4,500	\$59,000	3,784	15,000	Yes	Block.....	No.....	Yes	Miss Janet M. Green.
Bayfield Public.....	Bayfield.....	1,375	1875	1889	600	13,000	1,300	3,750	Yes	Town Hall.....	No.....	Yes	J. Andreas.
Williams Free.....	Beaver Dam.....	4,222	1884	1884	1,643	10,000	5,564	23,177	Yes	Lib. Bldg.....	Yes.....	Yes	Miss Mary J. Doolittle.
Belleville Free.....	Belleville.....	.....	1876	1893	133	.....	1,372	3,247	No	Town Hall.....	Yes.....	No	Miss Mabelle A. Story.
Beloit Public.....	Beloit.....	6,315	.....	1895	1,100	.....	1,372	.....	No	Block.....	Yes.....	No	Mrs. Nina Northrop.
Berlin Public.....	Berlin.....	4,149	.....	1895	280	.....	1,600	4,000	No	Block.....	Yes.....	No	H. Miner.
Black River Falls Public.....	Black River Falls.....	2,169	1868	1874	179	.....	1,600	4,000	Yes	Town Hall.....	Yes.....	Yes	Mrs. M. J. Gunn.
Chippewa Falls Public.....	Chippewa Falls.....	8,679	1880	1884	1,675	.....	3,945	17,332	No	City Hall.....	No.....	Yes	Yes Mrs. Maude A. Earley.
De Pere Public.....	De Pere.....	3,695	1886	1886	.....	.....	1,700	.....	No	City Hall.....	Yes.....	Yes	M. J. Maes.
Eau Claire Public.....	Eau Claire.....	7,445	1869	1876	3,000	.....	6,000	35,516	Yes	Block.....	Yes.....	No	Miss Louise Sutermeister.
Fond du Lac Free Public.....	Fond du Lac.....	12,415	1869	1876	2,500	.....	32,640	38,000	Yes	Block.....	Yes.....	Yes	Miss Emma E. Rose.
Fort Atkinson Public.....	Fort Atkinson.....	12,024	1863	1877	.....	.....	1,500	10,000	Yes	City Hall.....	Pro'v's'lly	No	Miss Sue C. Nicholls.
T. B. Scott Free Public.....	Grand Rapids.....	1,792	.....	1890	.....	5,000	2,759	32,764	Yes	Block.....	No.....	Yes	Mrs. W. B. Raymond.
Green Bay Public.....	Green Bay.....	9,060	1880	1884	3,000	15,000	4,800	32,764	Yes	Block.....	Teachers.....	Yes	Miss Anna H. McDonnell.
Janesville Free Public.....	Janesville.....	10,836	1865	1884	Sub'n	.....	10,000	30,000	No	Block.....	Yes.....	No	Yes Mrs. Louise Best.
Kenosha Public.....	Kenosha.....	6,532	1886	.....	.....	2,000	2,000	.....	Yes	Block.....	Yes.....	No	Mrs. Clara P. Barnes.
La Crosse Public.....	La Crosse.....	25,900	1886	.....	Sub'n	59,000	13,000	43,000	Yes	Lib. Bldg.....	No.....	Yes	Yes Miss Annie E. Hanscome.
Madison Free.....	Madison.....	13,466	1854	1875	2,500	.....	14,323	55,590	Yes	City Hall.....	Pro'v's'lly	Yes	Miss Georgia R. Hough.
Memorial Free.....	Memorial.....	3,461	1891	.....	1,500	.....	6,022	21,398	Yes	Lib. Bldg.....	Yes.....	Yes	Miss Stella Lucas.
Menomonee City.....	Menomonee.....	2,891	1891	1896	.....	10,000	3,413	8,000	Yes	Block.....	Yes.....	Yes	Miss Angeline Heller.
T. B. Scott Free.....	Merrill.....	2,890	.....	1891	400	10,000	8,223	283,648	Yes	City Hall.....	Pro'v's'lly	No	Miss Janet P. Russell.
Milwaukee Public.....	Milwaukee.....	294,468	1847	1878	35,519	.....	1,695	800	Yes	Block.....	Pro'v's'lly	Yes	Miss Theresa West.
Mineral Point Free.....	Mineral Point.....	2,694	1894	.....	.....	.....	3,338	15,739	Yes	Block.....	Yes.....	Yes	Miss Fanny Chandler.
Monroe Public.....	Monroe.....	2,768	1886	.....	865	.....	3,338	15,739	Yes	City Hall.....	Yes.....	No	Miss Kittie A. Snock.
Neenah Public.....	Neenah.....	2,083	1884	.....	Sub'n	.....	1,806	5,000	No	City Hall.....	Yes.....	Yes	Miss Emma F. Lachmann.
Oconomowoc Public.....	Oconomowoc.....	2,722	1893	1895	.....	59,000	3,000	.....	Yes	Block.....	Yes.....	No	Miss Clara Weber.
Oshkosh Public.....	Oshkosh.....	22,832	1891	.....	Sub'n	.....	2,000	.....	Yes	City Hall.....	Yes.....	.....	Miss Adeline Olcott.
Sheboygan Public.....	Sheboygan.....	16,359	1895	.....	\$4,000	10,000	3,338	6,168	No	Block.....	No.....	.....	Miss Frances Gerend.
Sparta Free.....	Sparta.....	2,359	1866	1874	.....	10,000	1,000	.....	Yes	Block.....	No.....	No	Miss J. Scouten.
Jeppeth Mann Public.....	Two Rivers.....	2,895	1890	1893	500	1,000	1,200	4,130	Yes	Lib. Bldg.....	Pro'v's'lly	Yes	Miss Mary Lyman.
Washington Free Public.....	Washington.....	3,699	1890	1890	500	.....	2,500	7,000	Yes	Lib. Bldg.....	Pro'v's'lly	Yes	J. P. Savage.
Harwood Public.....	Wauwatosa.....	10,934	1886	.....	500	3,500	2,500	.....	Yes	Lib. Bldg.....	Pro'v's'lly	No	Mrs. A. P. Roddis.
Superior Public.....	West Superior.....	11,983	1886	1889	2,500	.....	9,304	44,157	Yes	Block.....	Yes.....	No	Mrs. Della Freestone.

SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARIES.

		\$10	\$1,000	2,500	No	Block.....	No.....	Miss Libbie Quickenden.
Columbus Lib. Ass'n.....	Columbus.....	1,977	1877	.....	.....	No	.....	E. M. Richardson.
Ladies' Library Ass'n.....	Hudson.....	2,970	1875	.....	.....	No	.....	.....
Jones' Library Ass'n.....	Manitowoc.....	7,770	1868	.....	.....	City Hall.....	.....	C. S. Stokwell.
Neillsville Lib. Ass'n.....	Neillsville.....	1,936	1895	.....	2,475	City Hall.....	.....	Mrs. F. W. Epley.
New Richmond Lib. Ass'n.....	New Richmond.....	1,434	.....	556	.....	City Hall.....	.....	Miss F. P. Scribner.
Ripon Lib. Ass'n.....	Ripon.....	3,358	1884	.....	1,896	No Block.....	.....	Mrs. L. C. Stewart.
Hillyer Library.....	Waupun.....	2,757	1888	524	.....	No Block.....	.....	Miss Grace Williams.
Whitewater Public.....	Whitewater.....	4,359	1884	179	.....	No Block.....	.....	W. W. Wight.
Milwaukee Law.....	Milwaukee.....	204,468	1866	550	5,000	Block.....	.....	.....

*The name of the Hayward Free Public Library was received too late for publication in proper place.

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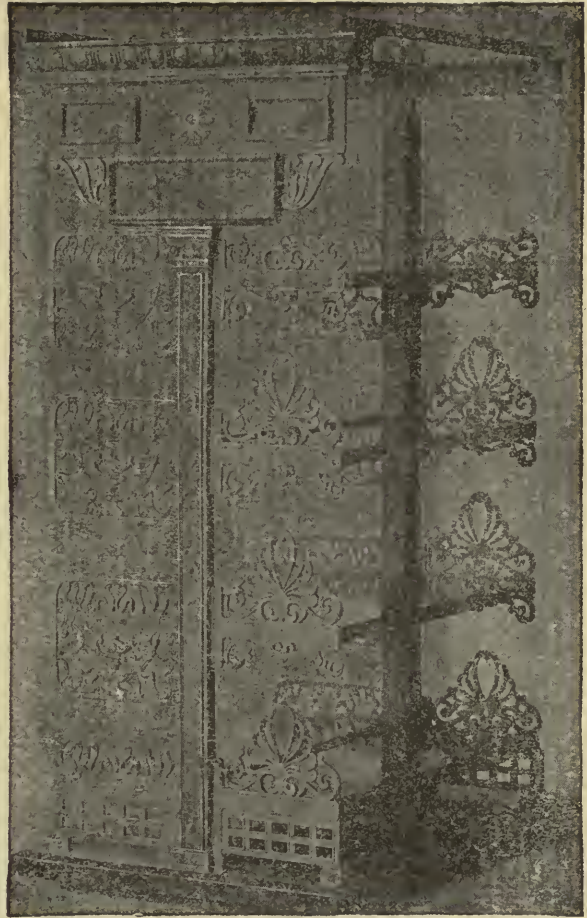
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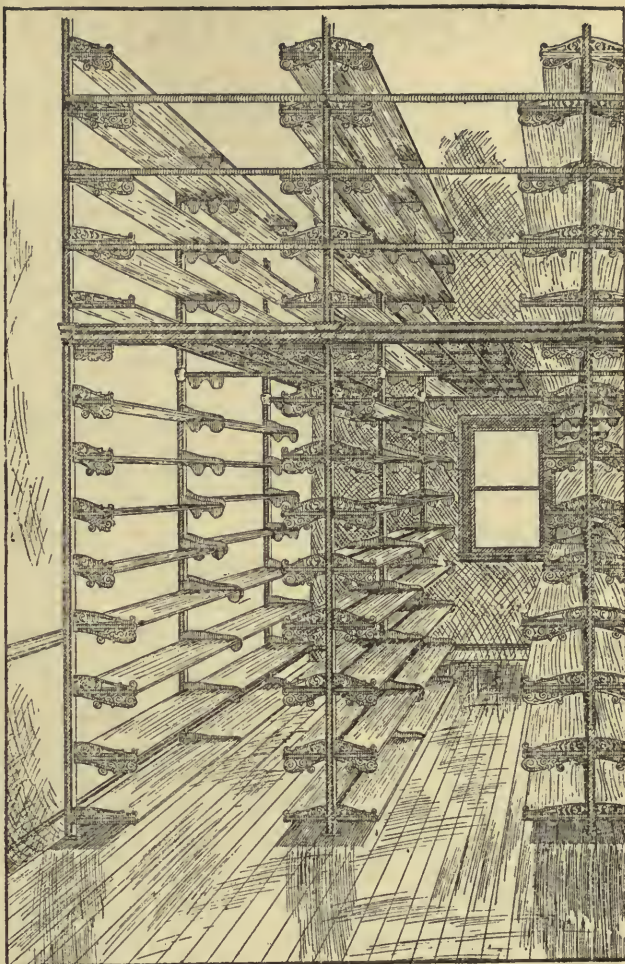
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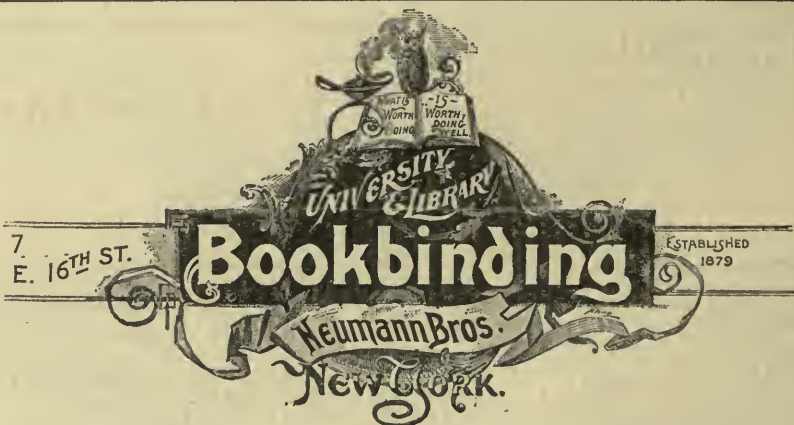
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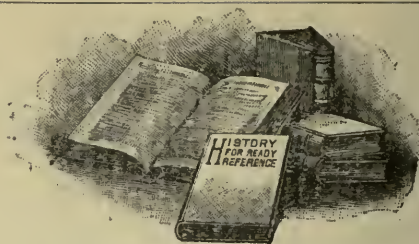
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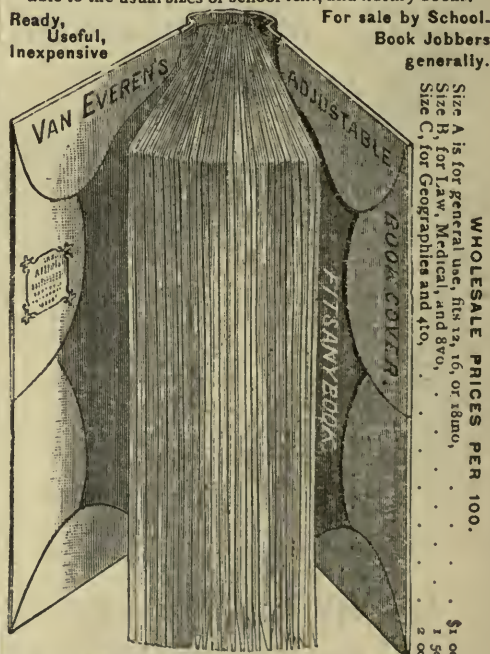
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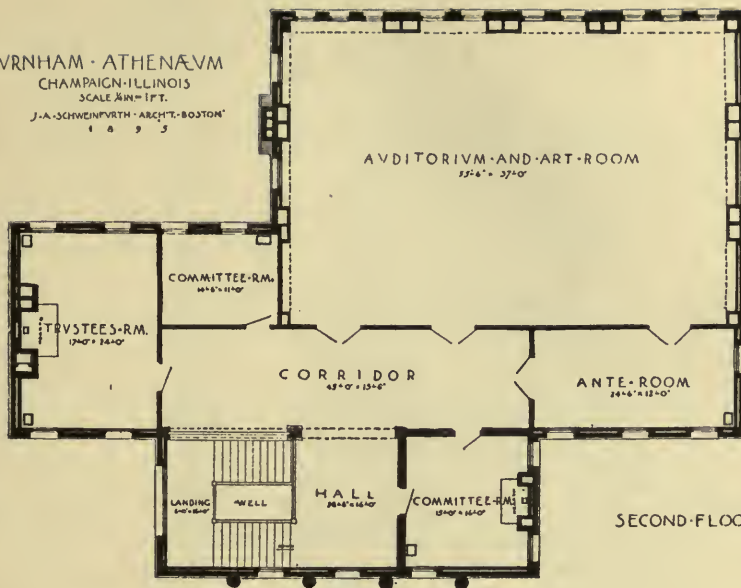
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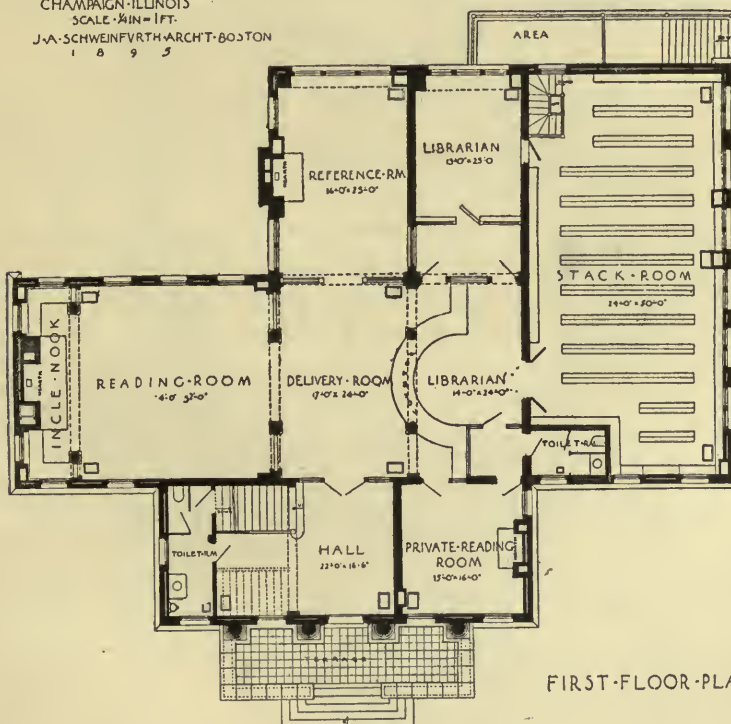
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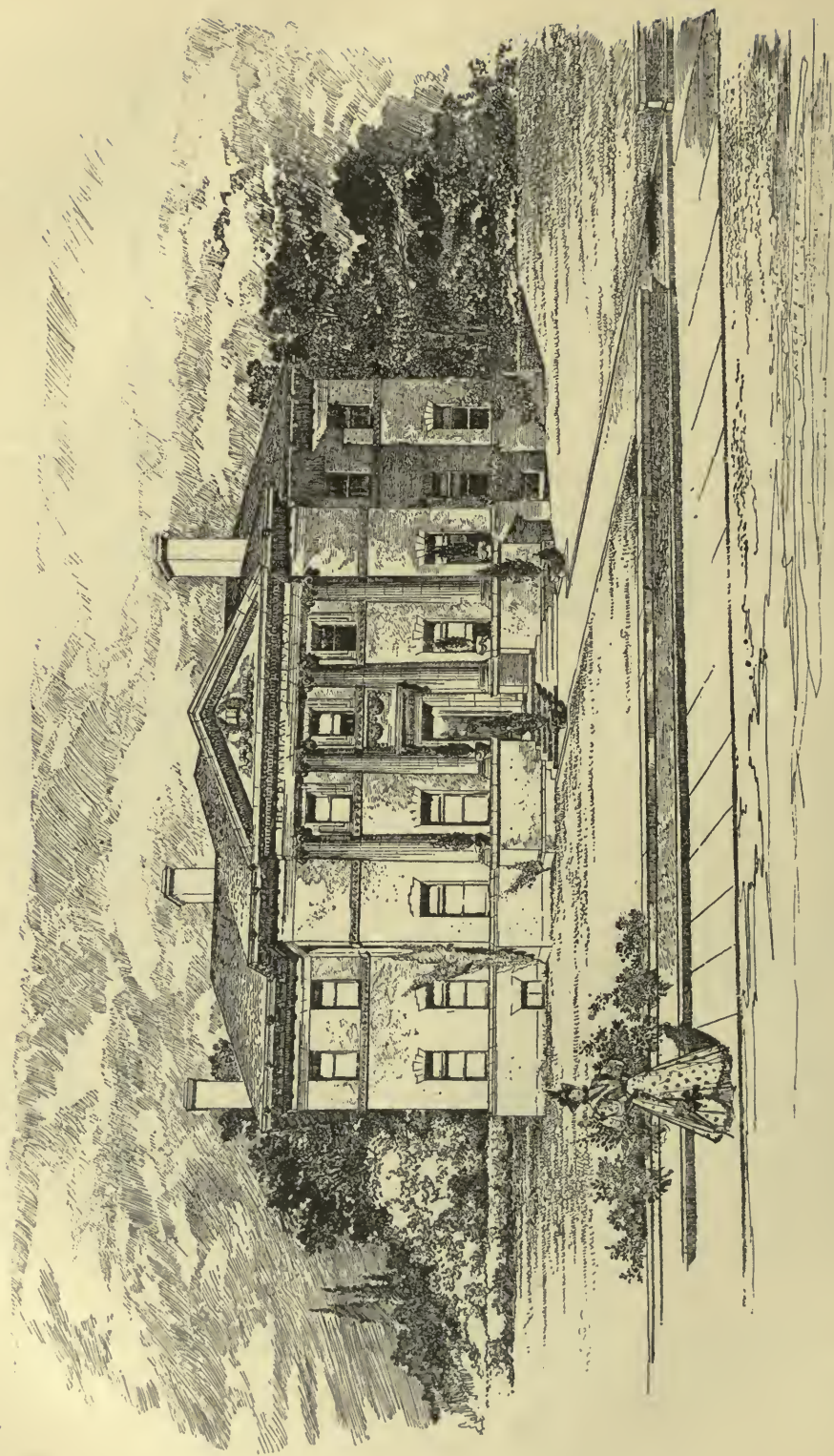
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VOL. 21.

MAY, 1896.

No. 5

IT is good news that the supplementary government documents bill, prepared by Mr. Crandall, has passed the House of Representatives, and is now before the Senate members of the joint committee on printing. There is a good prospect of the passage of the bill if it is reported by the committee, and librarians will do well to write promptly to Senator Eugene S. Hale, urging upon him a prompt and favorable report from his committee.

THE spoilsmen in politics have been so circumscribed by the progress of civil service reform in ordinary political relations, that they are forced to sorry tricks and devices in making the most of the pickings in fields still left to them. Unfortunately, one of the last ditches of the spoilsmen's fight proves to be that branch of administration in which there should be least of politics—the administration of state and municipal libraries. Several of the western states, notably Ohio, California, and Iowa, have been the victims of this mania, capable and efficient librarians having in these and in other instances been removed because they did not belong to the dominant party, or because their places were wanted for political or personal associates of those who were for the time being in control of the appointing power. Happily, largely at the initiative of the Ohio Library Association, Ohio has appointed a commission which will have charge of the state library and the appointment of the state librarian hereafter, and the name of Rutherford P. Hayes, pleasantly known throughout the library profession, not only as the son of the ex-president but as thoroughly and intelligently versed in library affairs, is evidence that hereafter the state librarian will not be displaced because he is not "a Foraker man" or a member of the dominant party.

THE storm-centre is for the moment shifted to the distant state of Washington, where a battle royal is waging with the new admin-

istration of the city of Tacoma, which has come into office under a new charter that, unfortunately, failed to provide for the continuance in office of the existing officials. Mr. William Curtis Taylor, a veteran in the library field, who combines the experience of years with the energy of youth in a remarkable manner, and who has done much for the City Library of Tacoma, was not *persona grata* with the new mayor, who had shown his appreciation of reform methods by appointing, we are told, a "two-chair barber" to the office of superintendent of city works. Mr. Taylor applied to the courts as against the mayor's action, and meantime literally held the fort by encamping in the municipal library day and night until, recently, he concluded to alter the plan of campaign and remove to the citadel of his own home, taking the library records with him. This incident has an amusing side, but it is nevertheless a most serious matter. Of course, it will not be long before an end will be put to all this, for the feeling of the people in behalf of civil service reform is surprising and triumphant, and they will not long tolerate political interference in library administration. The Pacific coast, however, has had too many examples of this sort, the latest being at Santa Rosa, where Miss Kumli has been deposed from office, apparently for political reasons, against the general protest of the teaching community, who have certified with remarkable unanimity to her value in connection with the general educational work of the place.

WE print elsewhere, in more detail than the importance of the investigation in itself demands, the report of the legislative committee on the State Library at Albany. As the charges against Mr. Dewey, although petty in themselves, were given wide newspaper notoriety, it seems only fair that the complete vindication and thorough-going testimonial of this legislative committee should be "spread upon the minutes" in the JOURNAL. Mr. Dewey has

been steadfast in opposition to the spoils system in library administration, and this, of course, has concentrated upon him the dislike of the spoilsmen. A legislative committee is not always friendly to progress in directions counter to its political interests, and this report has, therefore, the more significance. We trust it will have the result of stimulating other official librarians in maintaining the standard and lessen the chance of decapitation by the political axe.

THE attacks upon the Providence Public Library by Mr. Sidney S. Rider, who dearly loves a Don Quixote adventure, but prefers something more substantial than windmills as the object of his attacks, has incidentally been of service in calling attention to how little the uniform method of statistics devised by the A. L. A. so long ago as 1877 has been put into practice. The tempest in a teapot with which *Book Notes* has been boiling over has no significance in itself, but we print Mr. Foster's rejoinder, which would be scarcely considered necessary by those who know Mr. Foster and the fine work of the Providence Public Library—including, of course, the entire library profession—because it brings up usefully this question of comparative library statistics. It is never worth while in commercial business to let the business be run for the sake of the book-keeping, nor is it worth while to make statistics the chief aim of libraries. On the other hand, as great interests grow, it is found of growing importance, for purposes of actual money-saving, to keep careful and even elaborate statistics, and to make comparative use of these in relation to the statistics of other similar enterprises. Library statistics have on the whole been very thoroughly worked out in nearly all large libraries, but such figures have but part of their value when they are not made the subject of comparison. The A. L. A. did a wise thing at its very beginning when it mapped out forms of report which would make such comparison possible, and it is a curious oversight that in 20 years so little use has been made of these forms and so little attention has been called to the omission. With the experience of the past 20 years it is possible that these forms may be improved, and it is certainly to be hoped that at the Cleveland conference especial attention will be given to the desirability of comparative statistics on the basis originally adopted by the A. L. A., or

on such modified basis as may commend itself to the judgment of the conference.

THE view and plans of the Champaign Public Library, of which the corner-stone was laid last month, are presented in the JOURNAL, by courtesy of the architect, with a double purpose—for the information and interest of the library profession, and for the benefit of the people of Champaign. Mr. Schweinfurth, the architect, desires us to express his readiness to receive from librarians suggestions for any modifications of the interior plans which, in their judgment, may make the library when completed a better working library. This is a happy precedent on the part of the architect, for which we take the liberty of offering to him the thanks of the library profession by what we are sure would be a unanimous vote. There is still a tendency on the part of architects to magnify their profession by making beautiful buildings which are extremely inconvenient in their interior working; indeed, the Boston Public Library, the most notable achievement of library architecture in this country, has a number of defects in its working arrangements, and a chief value of the new Congressional Library building at Washington is the careful engineering work which has been done in making the building one in which the library can be administered to best advantage. We shall be prepared, to the fullest extent practicable, to present in advance in the JOURNAL the plans of proposed libraries, so that architects, librarians, and users alike may get the benefit of professional counsel before the plans of the libraries are crystallized into final and unalterable shape.

A NEW library periodical has been started by the Library Bureau, in addition to *Library Notes*, under the title of *Public Libraries*. The new periodical is to be issued from its Chicago office monthly, except during July and August, and it is intended to maintain it regularly and not to permit it to lapse into the desultory irregularity of *Library Notes*. It is editorially in charge of Miss Ahern, formerly librarian of the Indiana State Library, who is well and pleasantly known throughout the profession, and the president and other officers of the A. L. A. have lent to it the benefit of their names and support as associate editors. Whether the American library field is large enough and rich enough to support three library periodicals remains to be seen.

Communications.

SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY.

IN the LIBRARY JOURNAL for July, 1895, a request was made to other librarians for information in regard to Saturday half-holidays.

From the replies received, it is evident that the day is considered too busy to give any thought to half-holidays, particularly as such privilege would come in the summer when vacations are going on. Many libraries, however, shorten the hours during the hot months.

Mr. Bardwell reports that the Brooklyn Library has closed the delivery department at 2 p.m. on Saturdays during July and August for several years, the reading-room remaining open until 9 p.m. He says further: "In July and August we close the delivery department on other days than Saturday at 6:30 p.m. instead of 9 o'clock. This closing up evenings and the shorter hours mentioned is a great relief to us all, and does not interfere with the circulation of books. It only brings the business within narrower limits of time. In August we close the book delivery department from 12:30 to 3 p.m. The reading-room is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. throughout the summer months.

"We do not find any objection worth mentioning to this. Everybody can draw books, only within shorter hours, and books can be returned at the reading-room desk at all hours. The extra rest is very beneficial to the library force, for the evening duty in the hot season is more exhausting than the whole of the daytime."

Miss Hewins reports that at Hartford the attendants have one morning off each week. They are on duty in the reference-room one Sunday morning in seven and for this additional work get the following afternoon and evening off duty.

In the Otis Library, in Norwich, Ct., each member of the staff is allowed one afternoon each week. Mr. Crunden, of St. Louis, reports that one half day is allowed each month in the year except during the period when vacations are going on.

Miss Richardson, of New London, says: "Ever since the opening of our library in 1891 I have practised the plan" [of half-holidays].

"As we have less to do in the morning and as the afternoon is pleasanter to have for a holiday, I have alternated; those of my assistants who have a morning one week have the afternoon of the next, the afternoon being given on a day when the library is not open in the evening so that they can have the entire time from noon."

The experiment of the Saturday half-holiday was tried in Newark last summer during the months of July and August, and it was a complete success. It required merely the rearrangement of hours to have as many on duty as on any other day; and from only three attendants was it necessary to require any additional work. In this way the attendants gained a half day every other week. This was

made possible by the fact that the large stores closed on Saturday evening, and therefore the bulk of our work was lessened, or rather brought within narrower limits.

My own experience is that the assistants derived a great deal of benefit from this half-holiday and the public received just as satisfactory treatment.

Where practicable, I would advise a trial of the Saturday half-holiday during the summer months without closing the library.

FRANK P. HILL.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, {
NEWARK, N. J. }

PROPOSED REFORMS IN PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

THE "First draft of a proposed bill to reduce the cost, increase the value, and simplify the methods of publication of the public documents furnished to designated depository libraries" sent out by Mr. F. A. Crandall, Superintendent of Documents, and summarized in the *Match LIBRARY JOURNAL*, is of the highest importance.

Mr. Crandall has found that two or three very simple changes in the method of publication will do away with very great evils. He suggests an excellent method of lettering in uniform style, and also that no document shall ever be published, as at present often happens, in two or more series with different titles, to the great waste of the public money and the great confusion of catalogers and librarians.

Moreover, he would abandon entirely binding in flimsy sheep and substitute a cheaper and stronger binding in the best of cloth. This change will save, he calculates, \$100,000 a year, and he suggests that part of this saving might hereafter be devoted to an increase in the number of depository libraries. Would that it might; but that alone is not enough. The money saved should be also applied to providing in some way for the free sending of any public document to any public library which shall apply to the superintendent of documents for it; using the term public library in its broadest sense. This is the only measure which will satisfy the reasonable wishes of libraries. There are many in all parts of the country which could never expect to be made "designated depositories," which indeed could not afford the shelf-room for the whole mass of the public documents of the United States, and yet have urgent need of some particular document or class of documents for the use of their readers. These libraries generally cannot afford to buy them. Nor is there any reason why such institutions as are willing to take the cost of cataloging and storing and serving the public with these documents, should be compelled to also pay for them. Congress orders documents printed and the country pays for the printing for this very purpose which the libraries are forwarding, that information may be made public. But the library should be allowed to make its selection. The document that a library wants enough to ask for it will do a hundred times more good than the document which it would rather not receive. Senators and representatives are always willing to furnish these documents

when they can, but many a librarian has found his representative's quota exhausted, and even when the representative puts himself to considerable trouble, as he usually does, to get the desired document from some other source, he is often unable to procure a copy for the library. There ought not to be any need of the intervention of senator or representative. The number of designated depositories ought to be much increased, to be sure, so as to include all the libraries that really desire a complete set of documents. But even more important than this increase, which would provide some libraries with a store of books that may be of use, is the measure I urge, which would provide many libraries with books that are sure to be of use.

I propose, therefore, that librarians submit to their governing boards a resolution endorsing strongly this draft of Mr. Crandall's, and add to the endorsement the expression of a wish that provision shall be made in some way for sending to all public libraries which are not "designated depositories" any public document hereafter published for which they may apply to the Superintendent of Documents.

CHARLES A. CUTTER.

FORBES LIBRARY,
NORTHAMPTON, MASS. }

THE SELECTION OF "SELECT FICTION."

PERHAPS it may be interesting to some of the JOURNAL readers to know something of the mental processes of the Massachusetts Library Club select fiction committee in regard to a book much praised in the reviews but not included in the "List of select fiction." The book was read by three readers of the committee. All agreed that the story was interesting, but that the excessive profanity was a drawback. It was thought, however, that it gave a true picture of soldier life, and the committee decided to include it, with a note regarding the profanity. Before the list was printed a trustee of one of our Massachusetts libraries read the book. He had been in the army during the entire war, and had taken part in 40 pitched battles. With this experience on which to base a judgment he declined to purchase the book for the library, because it was not true to fact and because of the profanity. On the judgment of a man who seemed qualified, we dropped the book from the list. Who shall decide when doctors disagree?

The above statement is made, not because the committee has any doubt as to the wisdom of its action on this particular book, but to show the care with which it does its work and the difficulty in making a list that will be perfectly satisfactory to all.

NINA E. BROWNE,
Secretary of Committee.

[It is probable that many librarians have noted with surprise the omission of "The red badge of courage" from the Massachusetts Library Club Lists, and the foregoing explanation is therefore interesting, whether it be approved or not. — ED, L. J.]

THE GUTENBERG SEMI-MILLENNIAL.

AT the last meeting of the Michigan Library Association a resolution, presented by Mr. B. A. Finney, of the State University Library, was adopted, looking to the appropriate celebration in 1897 of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Johann Gutenberg. Subsequently, it appears, the authorities of Mainz changed their minds as to the proper date for such a celebration and reopened the question for further consideration. To obtain information Mr. Finney has corresponded with persons in Germany. Prof. Dziatzko, of Göttingen, says: "Nothing positive is known of the year in which Gutenberg was born and much less of his birthday. Both 1397 and 1398 are called the year of his birth, probably for the reason that his death occurred in the first part of 1468, or the last part of 1467, and he was then 70 years old. Probably the celebration will be with the century, so it is safe to say that it will take place in 1900. The magistrate of the city of Mainz, whom I asked in regard to this detail, was of the same opinion." Dr. Velke, of Mainz, writing in reply to the inquiry, says: "The question of date is still open. But it is certain that the celebration will not take place in 1897."

It may be gratifying to those who take any interest in the subject to learn the foregoing views.

PUBLIC LIBRARY,
DETROIT, MICH. }

H: M. UTLEY.

FULL NAMES DESIRED.

IF the librarians who wrote papers for the World's Fair meeting of the A. L. A. — those of them who do not ordinarily spell out their middle names — will kindly send their full names as soon as possible to the undersigned, they will receive credit for their full names in the forthcoming catalog of documents of the Fifty-third Congress, and will confer a favor upon the compiler.

EDITH E. CLARKE.

OFFICE OF DOCUMENTS,
WASHINGTON, D. C. }

SOFTENING BINDINGS.

"M. Q." inquires for a method of softening leather bindings. A little lard (*very* little) rubbed over leather bindings preserves the life of the leather. At least this is true of "sheep" and "roan," the only leathers on which the writer has seen it used; though there seems to be no reason why it should not be equally effective on other leathers used in binding.

S: H. RANCK.

ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY,
BALTIMORE, MD. }

THE MANCHESTER (ENG.) FREE LIBRARIES.

IN the report of the Washington Library Association in your issue of April, 1896, the statement is made that the Free Libraries of Manchester have added to their reading-rooms, coffee taverns, smoking-rooms, chess and billiard rooms. As this statement may lead to a misapprehension, I write to say that these useful additions to a public library have as yet found their way into only one branch of the Manchester system.

MARGARET C. DYER.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE LIBRARIAN'S DUTY AS A CITIZEN.*

BY CHARLES KNOWLES BOLTON, *Librarian Brookline (Mass.) Public Library.*

It is the duty of every man to set apart some of his time and strength to be devoted to the welfare of the community in which he lives. To make this time and strength effective, he must work along the lines where his tastes and study have most fitted him to be of service. The librarian, therefore, has a wide field of usefulness more or less akin to the duties of his position.

Success here depends more upon character than upon training. It is not only what he knows, but how he approaches people and holds their respect. There is no better school for a man's character than contact with men, and no librarian can enter into the improvement of the social and intellectual life of the community without gaining strength himself.

I shall not begin by saying that a librarian should pay his taxes. He is sufficiently well looked after in that matter, even though his conscience no longer pricks him. But does he try to know people with whom he would not naturally associate? Does he call on them when he had rather call on his best friends? Does he think of their interests and their needs, as well as of those of his friends? Is his life a life of service, like that of the clergyman? If he is not willing to make it so, he is not in the spirit of the coming profession of a librarian. The ministry will ever be held most in honor for the sacrifice of self which it requires. The calling of a librarian, to attract high-minded men and women, must be second only to the ministry in its aims and standards.

The laborer, the foreigner, and the social leader are each of them his problems; the laborer to be approached by meeting the labor-leader of the town, the foreigner by learning his language, the social leader by coming to respect the value as well as the power of organized society. No man, whatever his profession or condition in life, should be content to live wholly within the confines of one social circle.

All classes may be won by a man or woman who is fond of children. If you are interested in the child for whom the poor man goes without a coat, or in one for whose schooling a wealthy father and mother delay for a month

their departure to the seashore, you will be welcomed by both families. Again, all classes are reached by the universal language of pictures—picture exhibitions and picture-books. Why should not every family have the privilege of borrowing for three months one of the Braun photographs of some European masterpiece? What an influence such a picture would have in the home!

But it is not enough to know faces and names. What subject does a man's face recall, and what group of friends? It is easy to belong to one group, but it is not easy to find a welcome in many groups. Let a knowledge of these neighborhood groups lead to an arrangement whereby one trip to the library may serve the wants of several families in remote quarters of the town. They themselves seldom take the initiative in these matters.

People of similar tastes are brought together into literary and scientific clubs. I know of no better way to make the library a centre for all classes than to have a room where these clubs may meet to carry on their discussions and to consult the books in the library which relate to their subject. At one of the new libraries they are to have a dark room for developing photographic plates. In another library, specimens used by the Natural History Club are kept in the trustees' room, and the club meetings are held there.

Whether smoking should be allowed in the men's room is a debatable question as yet, but our schools have already faced the problem of children's lunches, and are serving soups, milk, and sandwiches within the buildings. To have these lunch-counters under supervision and within shelter is a mark of an advancing civilization. The library should not be too far behind the schools in movements like this.

To know the people of his town the librarian must know the geography of his town. He should be familiar with every road, by-path, and variation of rock-formation within his jurisdiction if he is to know the conditions under which the applicant for a borrower's card lives. He should know every public improvement in the city, every member of the city council, every policeman, every letter-carrier, and every tradesman in the neighborhood. A librarian who will not go to the people cannot

*An address read before the Pennsylvania Library Club at Philadelphia, April 13, 1896.

expect the people to come to him. He may meet them through their children, he may meet them through their language, their trades, or their hobbies; but meet them outside of the library he must, if his influence as a citizen is to grow.

One way to make friends is to respect the hobbies of others. As we become older we realize that men with well-regulated hobbies succeed in life. I take the following story from a recent library bulletin: "A visitor at one of our public insane asylums was particularly impressed with the case of a patient who came riding up on a broomstick, and stopped just long enough to ask the question, 'Do you know the difference between riding a horse and riding a hobby?' A negative answer elicited the reply, 'When you are riding a horse you can stop; but when you are riding a hobby you must keep going.' And slashing his broomstick with an imaginary whip the rider of the hobby vanished at full speed."

One librarian writes me that her poor are too poor for the luxury of a hobby, and the rest ride bicycles. I doubt if any one is too poor to afford a small hobby. And as bicycling is the fashion, an alcove of bicycle lore and literature would be of interest. A good bibliography on the subject would add to the value of some library bulletin. Do you try to put the man with a hobby in communication with an authority on the subject? Some of the pleasantest friendships in life are between people who never meet, but are led into correspondence by a similarity of tastes.

I cannot agree with those who think the library is only for the study of literature. If a citizen of the town can earn money by answering genealogical questions I think he should be given every help possible. The inventor, too, should be assisted in his researches. Librarians whom I know have assisted in identifying hall-marks on silver, in directing a lady to a nerve-food firm in England, in preparing a speech for a boy to deliver to the parish priest in behalf of the Sunday-school, and in getting up tableaux for charity. Nothing broadens one's knowledge and stimulates one's activities like the answering of questions. A librarian who gives up his "information-desk" entirely to an assistant loses much of his hold upon the public, and sacrifices the best opportunity for that self-improvement which must be the forerunner of better work on the part of the librarian himself.

How far one's strength will allow one to join local clubs and associations is a personal matter. The need of this is obviated in many cases by opening the library for meetings. One librarian writes me that she contributes funds. Some would find it easier, in spite of long hours, to contribute strength rather than funds.

An interesting club described by a Massachusetts librarian is a Woman's Club for travel by means of books and pictures. If the stories of adventure and shipwreck by Robert Louis Stevenson and W. Clark Russell have come from beds of pain, what could not an ingenious librarian do for such a club? He could take its members to the North Pole without waiting to float across it. He could take them to the South Seas without fear of being devoured by the natives. He could even go to Siberia, the most dangerous place in the world for one who has our inquiring habits.

But I must pass on to another subject: the librarian's part in the local problems of administration, trade, religion, etc. Here he is dealing with different classes differentiated by material conditions, education, and opinion. To be of service to all without assuming what some one has called "the missionary attitude" is no easy task.

Every city or town has its burning questions from time to time: Greek in the schools, or rapid transit, or municipal reform, or better roads. The great problem in America to-day is not the silver question, nor the tariff question. It is the reform of our city system of government. I am not sure but that every public library should have a department for the collection of books and reports on all the allied subjects of streets, lighting, police, taxation, representation, etc. These should be open to public inspection at all times, and the teachers and parents, as well as the librarian, should emphasize the importance of the subject of government reform. The saying that those who govern never read the books on government shows what a field is open to the influence of the librarian.

Where there is a local industry like the making of chairs, shoes, hats, and the like, there are always a few men who are anxious to rise in their trade. These men appreciate technical books which give them a grasp of the whole subject, instead of the particular part which their training has fitted them for. To have helped one such man to a higher plane of life

and activity is to have added honor to the profession which we represent.

If there is a club of young men, their secretary might collect the library cards of the members and select from the library each week or two weeks an interesting book on each card. These books, standing on a shelf in the club-room, would serve the purpose of a home or branch library.

The town-meeting and the town-supported church have, through changed conditions, lost much of their value as local centres. Something must come to supply this need of a place where all may gather. The question now meets every librarian: Shall I strive to make the public library this centre? Or shall I leave that work to the saloon, the club, or the blacksmith's shop, until another movement more public-spirited, more comprehensive, and more wisely administered sweeps the country and leaves the public library system in the ranks of the petty charities? We who live to-day have it in our power to make the public library the great exponent of modern civilization, the best bulwark of social order and stability. To do it we must make progress. We must build our libraries with reference to these needs. The librarian of the next century will have no right to say: "Our library cannot be a social centre because we have no conversation-room, because we have no open fireplace, no lecture-room, no lunch-room, nothing but a place for the storage of books." Subscription libraries have receptions and serve chocolate. Why? To make the library popular and bring readers. Are we to say: The public library supported by the town will not fail to pay its salaries, therefore we will not have receptions to bring in new readers? These "Library days" when the public are specially invited, promise to be a feature in public libraries in the future. There will be an exhibition of some kind to interest visitors. The various devices of the library will be exhibited and explained by the attendants. The trustees, the librarian, and a committee representing the various social strata of the town will be ready to welcome and entertain the citizens. Subscription libraries are centrally located. Do we consider this in choosing a site for our public library? I am told by some librarians that young people carry on flirtations within sight of Horace's poems and Lord Chesterfield's letters. If we were to agree that these youthful follies should be restricted to the town-meeting galleries or to the

back pews of the village church, all the librarians in America could not stop two young people from falling in love; and I maintain that if they persist in the practice, the public library is the best place for them to choose for their trysts. Any institution which ignores life must in time succumb to the inroads of decay.

If there is a dignity about books and learning, there is something more: there is life, humor, and love. Pitt was no less a great man because the foreign ambassador found him on his hands and knees with his children astride his back. If the ambassador thought the less of Pitt, whose was the fault? The dignity which a library acquires from the stamped calf covers of the books is so thin that it may easily be shocked. But the respect which it may acquire by bringing happiness to the people will endure.

In what I have said I have, I hope, implied an interest on the librarian's part in the educational movements of the town. When the work of the schools touches local history and local problems, it becomes particularly interesting. In my own town of Brookline, a citizen offers each year prizes for the best essays showing original investigation in local history. I quote here from an article in the *New England Magazine*:

"Some of us wondered how these historical essays of the scholars could be printed, both for safe-keeping and for the benefit of other towns. . . .

"At last the following prospectus was drawn up and printed:

"The Brookline Historical Publication Society.

"The Brookline Historical Publication Society is organized to collect and print in a uniform series such manuscripts and material not readily accessible as shall seem worthy of permanent preservation.

"There shall be a Publication Committee of three to decide upon all matters suggested by the aims of the Society.

"The object of membership is to provide funds to carry on the work of the Society, and each subscriber of the annual fee of one dollar (\$1.00) will receive free all publications of the Society.

MISS _____ Treas.

Standing Publication Committee,

"N. B. Subscriptions may be sent at once to the Treasurer at the Public Library.

"It may be noted that there are no officers, no elections, no meetings, and no rules. What has been the result? Subscriptions have come in so rapidly that we shall print during the first

year four 'publications' besides the prize essay which alone it was our first intention to issue. Those already printed are: A letter written in 1810 by Rebecca Boylston to her uncle, telling of changes in the town, and of her engagement; the 'Sharp family papers,' and 'Brookline in the Revolution.' The church records, the graveyard inscriptions and collections of wills, deeds, etc., will follow.

"Every town has its letters and its diaries which should be preserved. One lady whom I approached for papers declared that she had nothing of value. After some patient questioning I secured a package of deeds and wills; of these, 13 were dated prior to the year 1700, one of them only 30 years after the coming of the *Mayflower*. The autographs of Governors Shirley, Bellingham, and Dudley gave them the dignity of history.

"Our society was started with an outlay of about \$6 for circulars and envelopes, besides 600 one-cent stamps. Each publication of eight pages costs \$10 for 300 copies, and a dollar for each 100 copies extra. A bookseller assures us that when we have enough numbers to make a volume, with title-page and index, he will be able to add to our treasury by further sales.

"The result, and to some extent the aim, of intensifying the interest of young people through giving their work a local application, has been an awakening of parents. To secure their more active co-operation with teachers,

and to unite every interest which could increase the intellectual activity of the community, the superintendent of schools initiated the movement which has resulted in the formation of the Brookline Education Society, with its 500 members. Already the possibility of a common meeting-ground has been found of immense advantage for a better understanding of aims and standards, as well as for the discussion of such questions as proper hygienic conditions, recreation, and sleep, with the parents themselves."

A society like this should find in the librarian a hearty supporter.

The librarian who is trying to make his library an intellectual centre must himself be doing the work of a good citizen. For he cannot attain to these ends unless he becomes a part of the intellectual and social life around him. The whole subject has been summed up by another in these words:

"I try first that no person coming to the library or to myself for sympathy or aid shall go away disappointed." If the librarian is known as a person who values the friendship of every one, and makes his library the one place that is always open and always ready to help, he has an influence to be guarded and prized and used for the good of the community. Then only is he worthy of the profession of a librarian, then only is he a representative American citizen.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

BY WILLIAM R. CUTTER, *Librarian Woburn (Mass.) Public Library.*

THAT there is an increase on the part of patrons in research of a genealogical character in public libraries is evident from the testimony of librarians of many of the larger centres of population in the older states of the Union. It is accounted for largely by the formation of patriotic hereditary societies, the membership of which is composed of persons anxious to trace their descent from some ancestor who had performed military service in the Revolutionary war, or in the still earlier wars of the colonies. To trace this descent is, in many instances, far from being an easy matter, and the seeker for information is obliged to work hard and long to secure the desired data. Besides, this information is often important in deciding questions of inheritance, and genealogy is oftentimes useful in tracing the titles of real estate, to say nothing

of the questions asked by the writers of the works called family histories, a class of persons to be found in all sections of the country. Thus in all the older towns and cities of the United States, where historical societies are not actively established, there is some one person who is expected to be "posted" on subjects relating to these matters, which are far more extensive than one unacquainted with the amount expected to be known would suppose. From recent evidence the person now whom the public expect to be the best informed on matters of local genealogy would appear to be the public librarian, and, in many places, as I have before said, he is the one applied to for the purpose.

Of course, he must supply himself, so far as the library resources will admit, with all the general books and local family histories that he

can gather. He must have all the volumes of printed records of all kinds that belong to his particular locality, and even of towns and cities reasonably remote from his own. These of themselves are a welcome aid to the patron. Newspaper volumes, too, are of especial value, for no public library, however small, should be without the bound volumes of the local newspapers from the first issue. It is supposed that this is generally understood.

It is true also that the archives of the state are the most usual depository of rolls and documents relating to active military service, but many towns in Massachusetts have preserved documents of great importance in determining military records of individuals. In the case of Woburn 975 of these contemporary documents have been preserved, and are now filed in document boxes in the public library. These documents embrace receipts, town orders, or orders drawn on the treasurer, with the autograph of the payee, rolls, reports to the town, fragments of company records, certificates, and a large number of other documents relating to the subject. These papers have already been indexed in a general manner,* but have been re-indexed much more thoroughly, and all their contents carefully taken note of. All the facts regarding an individual are written on catalog cards and arranged alphabetically under surnames, and then by Christian names under the surnames, after the manner of arrangement common to libraries.

Regarding each individual, I have endeavored to give all the facts possible. As the records of births, marriages, and deaths in Woburn are all in print to a very recent date, the year of birth and death is considered sufficient for my purpose. The epitaphs in the oldest burying-grounds being also preserved in print, reference by yard and number is made to them, so that the grave may be found for purposes of decoration. Items from contemporary diaries are given regarding dates of funerals, and other personal items. Abstract of probate on estate and other data from wills and tax lists are also presented with the military record.

I here submit a specimen record as a sample:
BROOKS, *Zachariah*, b. 1742, d. 1792 (49y.) epitaph 274, 1st yard.

Lieut. Town order acct. military service, March 20, 1777. — 4.319 [reference to paper in collection]. Receipts for money to hire

soldiers for Continental Army, 1777, 1778, see Index to Wyman MSS., p. 16. He was in the French War—see Lewis & Co.'s *Middlesex County*, i. 389, 396, 398. *Lieut.* 1776-92. *Lieut.* Wyman's company [local militia]: 8 mos., 1.0.0 [£, s., d.]; 5 mos., Ticonderoga, 12.0.0 [probably money contributed]; total, 13.0.0, before 1777. This was his militia assignment. Hired by Capt. Belknap. — 4.488. Bounty for 24 men. — 4.488.

Fox's company, 19 April, 1775, that marched from Woburn to Concord and thence to Cambridge. Term of service 21 days at that time. — *Mass. Archives*, 12:70.

1st lieutenant 6th Massachusetts regt., January 1, 1777; cashiered, April 27, 1778. — *Heitman, Historical Register*.

Zachariah Brooks, age 17, was impressed from Woburn for Col. Eleazer Tyng's regt., March 27, 1759. A large portion of the men then impressed had been out formerly to Lake George. By Isaac Snow, receipt for military service, March 29, 1762, in expedition against Canada in 1759, where he "tarried all winter." *Lieut.* Zac. Brooks marched to Cambridge, with the Woburn soldiers who marched, Oct. 31, 1786, at time of the Shays' insurrection.

Taxed East List, 1775 to 1783, inclusive.

Gent., intestate; Joseph Brown, admr.; acct. allowed Nov. 6, 1794. Estate represented insolvent. Court orders admr. to pay certain % of creditors' claims. Admrs. aft. of sale, Nov. 6, 1794. Inventory dated Sept. 16, 1793; another, June 11, 1793.

For published genealogy, see *New England Hist. Gen. Register*, 1875, p. 156.

It will be observed that the defects as well as the merits of a man's record appear in this manner of presentation.

All that it is necessary for me further to do is to send a copy of this record to my correspondent.

The process is the same for individuals who served in the wars of the colonial period, recalling the fact that calls for their records are less frequent. The records of the colonial period show plenty of material, but are more difficult to treat genealogically, yet, with effort, satisfactory results may be obtained. The state archives furnish the principal matter, but still in less public hands are many documents worthy to be considered in completing the record.

* See LIBRARY JOURNAL, Oct., 1892, p. 420.

THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND BOOK NOTES.

THE two choice extracts from *Book Notes* in the April LIBRARY JOURNAL (21: 163), though good, so far as they go, are hardly sufficient to satisfy readers of the JOURNAL. The lack in library literature, up to the present time, of anything answering very nearly to the description, "A comedy of errors," is so well supplied by these three articles in *Book Notes* of March 7, March 21, and April 4, 1896, that I am not so selfish as not to wish to share my appreciation of them with my fellow-librarians. There is, perhaps, space for only the following good things:

(1) In the first of the *Book Notes* articles referred to, readers are requested to "consult the official reports of this library," and thereby discover that the fiction percentage in 1894 was "75 per cent."; and yet, on complying with the request, they find it not "75," but "59.72."

(2) A fortnight later, after withdrawing the above statement, the same playful writer sends his readers again to the annual reports to observe that this library, in printing classification statistics, "prevents a comparison of itself with libraries throughout the country"; when, again, to their surprise, the readers find that the reports of this library go so far in the direction of *facilitating* such a comparison as to print these statistics of circulation in two other forms of classification beside its own.

(3) In one place (as already quoted in the LIBRARY JOURNAL), "three-quarters of all the books taken" are characterized by the writer in *Book Notes* not merely as "fiction," but as the "thoroughly vicious" variety of fiction. This characterization, perhaps, was not advanced with any very substantial expectation of being accepted by any reader. Certainly those of the librarian's fellow-craftsmen who remember the surprise expressed by them at learning of this library's somewhat severe taste in fiction (ruling out not merely the positively "vicious," but the merely negatively "unworthy," such as the types represented by Mrs. Southworth, Horatio Alger, and E. P. Roe, respectively) would be likely to receive this characterization with inextinguishable laughter.

(4) Again, one is sent to the printed report to observe that ".68+" is the "percentage of the Fiction class in 1894." The reader finds, however, that ".68+" is the percentage of "Total, Literary classes," and gains not merely a wholly new conception of "fiction" as including "Essays" and "Periodicals, literary," as well as poetry (these having separate entries under the general heading); but also the even more unfamiliar conception of the "disgrace of the readers" attaching to their use of poetry and essays. In the bewilderment resulting from an attempt to readjust our ideas of what is and is not desirable, the discovery (by comparison of our own with other library reports) that another assertion

of *Book Notes* is not well founded, in characterizing the fiction percentage of this library as the reverse of being "smaller here than elsewhere," hardly produces the satisfaction which might be expected.

(5) But this incomparable humorist shows us that he can surpass the level of this last achievement, incredible as it may seem. In the latest of the three articles, while giving more space to the Boston Public Library than to this library, the writer finds this library "incomparably superior," in the fact that, "*setting aside* the reading-room use," the annual cost for every book "actually circulated" is less in Providence than in Boston. A librarian who is congratulated on the basis of a distinction so remote from his wishes or his ideals of what a library should aim at, must feel very much as a Japanese might if congratulated on being so thorough a Chinaman. Rightly or not, the development of the reading-room use, and of reference work in general, is the very thing which has appealed most strongly to the interest of those in charge of this library; and they find such a basis of comparison as this the hardest of all to conceive of or to understand.

But in truth was it ever intended by the writer that any one should take these novel ideas seriously? As the writer is an intelligent man — few men more so — one must believe that he has appreciated their humorous bearing as thoroughly as any one. Indeed, it is a significant fact in this connection, that in the new and startling interpretation of the scope of fiction proposed by him (as including "Periodicals, literary"), his own publication is classed as fictitious literature; and here is perhaps the key to an understanding of the whole.

Let me return for a moment to the suggestion (above referred to) that a common basis of comparison with other libraries was "prevented," in the classification statistics of this library. The members of the library committee, as well as the librarian, on looking into the matter, found themselves greatly surprised at the result — namely, that they seem to be alone in the use of such a "common basis." It is now, perhaps, a matter of ancient history, but any librarian, on examining his files of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, will find (v. 1, p. 431) that a scheme of "Library statistics" (including classification of circulation) was presented, in 1877, by a committee of the American Library Association; and he will also find (v. 2, p. 38), that "the circulation table was, on motion, adopted, as recommended by the committee," at the 1877 meeting of the American Library Association. It is this scheme, with slight verbal modifications, which this library has ever since reprinted year after year in its reports, translating the figures from its own classification into terms of this "A. L. A." classification, for the purpose of supplying a common basis for comparison; but, on a somewhat careful search through the latest reports of other libraries received by us, I cannot discover that any other library is doing this. Two public libraries —

those of Newton, Mass., and Dover, N. H., respectively*—apparently have no other classification than this one (as printed in the first volume of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*); but if there are any other libraries where it is used (either "primarily" or "secondarily"), I shall consider it a great favor to be informed of it. After the first surprise was over, however, at finding this library apparently unique in inviting comparison, instead of equally unique in "preventing" it, the members of the library committee asked the very natural question why this early suggestion of 1877 had not been acted on by libraries generally. This is an inquiry which I pass on to the readers of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, merely adding that there would seem to be very obvious advantages in employing such "a common denominator," as a basis for universal comparison.

Reference has already been made to the fact that, on comparing the fiction percentage of this library with that of other public libraries, it was found to be by no means high in our case. Indeed, to quote from the March number of the *Monthly Bulletin*, "according to a tabulation, based on the printed reports of other libraries, in the report of this library for 1895 (now in press)," only four public libraries, out of a total of 40 which print their fiction percentages, show a smaller one. I wish, however, to emphasize the statement—as made in the report referred to—that "the showing is here made, not because a low fiction percentage is or is not good in itself, but to satisfy a justifiable inquiry as to what the facts are in the case of this library." It should be added, also, that (as there stated), if the libraries included in the list were to be rearranged either on the basis of their total number of volumes, or their total circulation (both of these items being entered in this tabulation, as well as the fiction percentage), "the relative position of this library in the list would show large advantages in favor of the others." I trust, therefore, that other libraries, on receiving this report, will appreciate the fact that no invidious motive underlies the comparison referred to.

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

THE PUBLIC DOCUMENT REFORM BILL.

THE bill to reform present methods of printing public documents, drawn by Mr. F. A. Crandall, superintendent of documents, passed the House of Representatives on May 7 without an opposing vote. Great credit for this result is due to Hon. George D. Perkins, of Iowa, chairman, on the part of the House, of the joint committee on printing, who was chiefly instrumental in its passage. The bill is now in the hands of the Senate half of the joint committee on printing (Senators Hale, Hansbrough, and Gorman), and there is little doubt that if it is reported promptly, it will pass before the close of the present session.

*In each case, with slight modifications in matters of detail. A third public library—that of Pawtucket, R. I.—while employing this "A. L. A." classification for its daily use, does not print it, but in its annual report translates its statistics into the "Rhode Island Board of Education" classification, printing that only.

THE BURNHAM ATHENÆUM, CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

MR. A. C. Burnham, of Champaign, Ill., in the spring of 1895 gave to the city of Champaign, Ill., \$35,000 with which to build a free public library, to be known as "The Burnham Athenæum." The building committee, of which Mr. R. D. Burnham, of Champaign, is chairman, organized last winter, and held a competition for the plans, which was participated in by some 50 architects from all parts of the country, many from Chicago. The plans of J. A. Schweinfurth, of Boston, were chosen, and the building is now being built after his design and under his superintendence. It will be finished early in the fall. The architect has endeavored to carry out as many of the suggestions of librarians generally as he could, consistently with the scope and cost of the building. The building contract was signed for an amount well within the architect's estimates—and the building will cost, furnished and equipped, not more than \$35,000, including the architect's commission of 5%.

It will be noticed that the librarian, standing at the delivery-desk, has complete control of all the rooms, including the private reading or reception room, the entrances to toilet-rooms, the stairways to the second floor, etc., so that the cost for attendants is reduced to a minimum. Directly behind this desk is the entrance, by tinued door, into a practically fireproof book-stack room. The unpacking-room in basement is under the rear end of this room and communicating with it by stairs, and has a little elevator for books from basement to first floor. All the screens in the first floor are glazed at a convenient height, so that the librarian can easily command the public in all the rooms. At the end of the main reading-room is designed to stand a memorial terra-cotta mantel of monumental character—perhaps with bas-relief medallion portrait of the donor of the building.

There is plenty of opportunity for embellishments of stained-glass windows, etc., in the numerous toplights, the main stairway window, etc., and it will be seen that the windows are ample for lighting, while not detracting from the breadth of the outside effect. There is in the construction of the building, which is on the so-called "open mill" plan, an absence of furred-in or enclosed spaces to invite ready combustion. The plastering is directly on the inner brick walls without wooden laths or wooden furrings, and the heat and vent flues are of terra-cotta. The exterior walls of brick all have a 2-inch air-space to keep out moisture. The interior finish is in sycamore natural or stained. The ceilings throughout are in sycamore veneered beams and matched ceiling boards, the walls in rough cast plaster painted in subdued tints in oil color, so that they can readily be cleaned. The building is to be lighted by gas and by electricity, heated by indirect steam throughout and ventilated in the so-called gravity system.

The second floor contains a large room to be

used for small entertainments, collections of art work, etc., ante-rooms, and committee-rooms. The exterior walls are faced with creamy white Powhattan bricks made in Richmond, Va., and with trimmings of Perth Amboy Co.'s terra-cotta of about the same tone as the bricks, all laid in creamy white mortar, and the roof is of light green slates.

In addition to the gift for the building itself, Mr. Burnham presented to the library a memorial fund of \$10,000, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of books, each book so bought to be marked as "purchased by the Julia F. Burnham Memorial Fund."

The corner-stone of the building was laid on April 9, with appropriate ceremonies. The audience gathered in the First Methodist Church, where addresses were made by B. C. Beach, president of the library board, Rev. C. N. Wilder, and President Draper, of the University of Illinois. Mr. Beach traced the history of the library association from its inception, as conducted and supported by public-spirited citizens, until the passage of the state library law allowed its transfer to and support by the city. After the addresses the assembly adjourned to the site of the new building, where the corner-stone was set in place and the usual collection of documents, papers, etc., placed in it.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS FOR LIBRARIES.

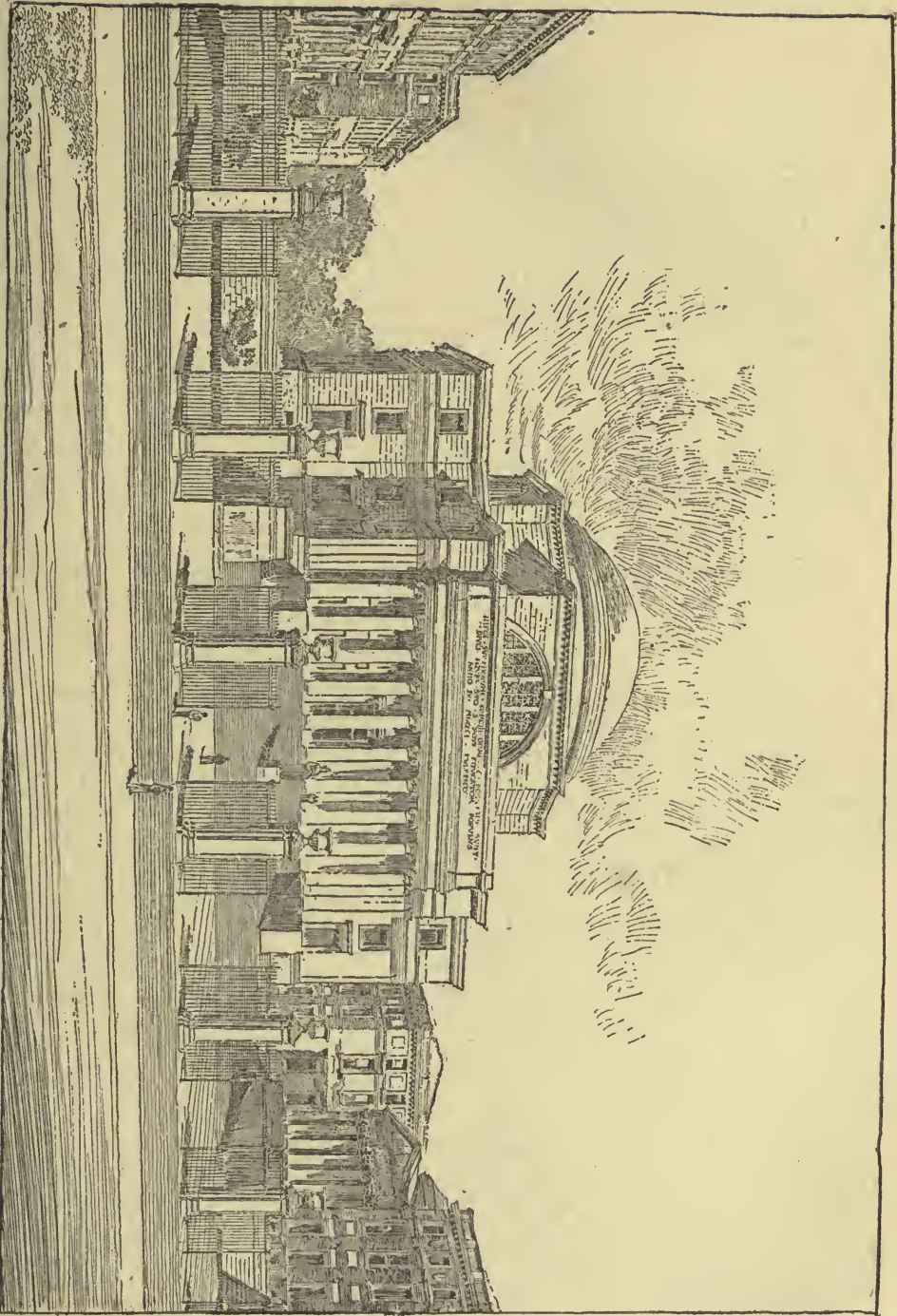
In the *Critic* for April 25 there appears a letter from S. L. Clemens ("Mark Twain"), now in India, in which he repeats the offer of the Maharajah of Jeypore to present copies of the first six parts of the "Jeypore portfolio of architectural details" to public institutions of learning which apply for it and are willing to defray cost of packing and carriage, which, from India to London, is given as Rs. 1-8, or about 42 cents. These drawings were all made under the superintendence of Colonel S. S. Jacob, engineer to the Jeypore State, Rajputana. The actual labor was performed by young natives in the schools of art, and accuracy in the sculptured adornments of tombs and mosques was secured by peculiar means. Sheets of soft, wet India paper were beaten into the sculptures with a brush, and when dry were found to retain the shapes of the originals. These impressions were transferred to smooth paper and reduced by photography to the size desired.

The collection includes about 440 plates, all carefully done to scale and arranged together in parts, each sheet loose, so that the different examples of architectural details may be readily compared by the student; there are 374 plates in the first six parts. The gift is made "to any public institution that applies for it for bona fide public use." Applications may be made to Superintending Engineer, Jeypore State, Rajputana, or to W. Griggs & Sons, Elm House, Hanover street, Rye lane, Peckham, England, and Mr. Clemens suggests that with any application should go a courteous word of acknowledgment to the Maharajah.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

ON Saturday, May 2, occurred the public dedication of the new site of Columbia University, on Morningside Heights, near Riverside Park, New York. The occasion was one of general public interest, and the ceremonies were notable and impressive. The grounds were profusely decorated with bunting, the national colors and Columbia's blue and white pennants predominating, and some 4000 guests were assembled in a large tent raised in the south court, while thousands of spectators surrounded the site. In the morning the corner-stones of the Physics building and Schermerhorn Hall were laid, the Rev. Drs. Marvin R. Vincent and Morgan Dix officiating as chaplains, and addresses being made by Dr. J. Howard Van Amringe, dean of the college, and Dr. H. F. Osborn, professor of zoölogy. These ceremonies, however, were semi-private, only the faculty, officers, alumni, and invited guests attending. The real celebration took place in the afternoon, when the grounds were thronged with an enthusiastic audience. The afternoon exercises opened with a procession of the faculties, officers, alumni, invited guests, and undergraduates to the places assigned to them. Rev. E. B. Coe then opened the proceedings with prayer, and President Low followed with a brief address on the new future opening before the university. Then came the presentation of the national colors to the university by Lafayette Post, with a short speech by Rear Admiral R. W. Meade, and the singing of the dedication ode written for the occasion by Prof. H. T. Peck, of the university. The address of the day was then delivered by Abram S. Hewitt, who traced the history of the college from its foundation in 1754, emphasized the influence it had exerted and should in the future exert upon civic and educational life in New York, and spoke of the great career now opening before it in its new and magnificent surroundings. A short address by President C. W. Eliot, of Harvard University, and the benediction by Bishop Potter concluded the ceremonies. The list of invited guests included most of the prominent citizens of New York, while among those present were the governor, Mayor Strong, President Brown, of Lehigh University, Gen. E. A. McAlpin, and Speaker Hamilton Fish.

The new site, on the crest of the hill where formerly stood the old Bloomingdale Asylum, is one of the most beautiful in the city, and brings the university among the group of beautiful new buildings, among them St. Luke's Hospital, the Teachers' College, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, that have been erected or are now rising on Morningside Heights. The site itself and the plans for the central building — the library — have already been fully described in these columns (L. J. 19: 379-380). Work is progressing rapidly on the library building, while the foundations of the Schermerhorn building, College hall, the Engineering building, and the Chemical building are well under way.



LIBRARY BUILDING, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY.

THE report of the legislative committee recently appointed to investigate the various state departments at Albany, N. Y., is given below, so far as it relates to the charges brought against Melvil Dewey, secretary of the board of regents and librarian of the state library. The report also considers at some length the charges brought by Mr. Dewey against Dr. James Hall, state geologist, who is fully and completely exonerated of any misuse of his official position.

Report of sub-committee of the joint committee of the senate and assembly appointed to investigate the state departments, etc.

To the Legislature:

The sub-committee of the joint committee of the senate and assembly to investigate the departments, boards, and commissions of the state government, to wit: The office of the secretary of state, office of the treasurer, office of the state board of charities, of different institutions under the supervision of the said board; office of the regents of the university, the salt springs of Syracuse, Niagara reservation, state museum, the civil service of the state of New York, and Fire Island quarantine station, created by resolution of the legislature at the session of 1895, respectfully reports:

THE OFFICE OF THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

The interests of education are of highest importance, and no better means are probably afforded for obtaining information with respect to the progress made in and what concerns them, more especially in the administration of official responsibility, than a consideration of the work accomplished by the University of the State of New York.

Your committee was duly impressed with the character of the labors imposed upon it by the legislature, and proceeded to make as thorough investigation as possible of the manner in which the office of the regents was conducted. Much time was necessarily consumed in taking up in detail the various departments committed to the direction of the duly constituted officers of the university. A thorough inspection was made of every division and the means and methods employed in the management of its affairs. So rapid has been the growth of the work demanded by increased interest in educational matters, that the notice of the committee was especially directed in the outset to the want of adequate room for necessary clerical force and the proper disposition of books and documents accumulated to such extent that more room with due economy of arrangement is absolutely required for immediate use. . . .

Proceeding upon the investigation from time to time, your committee took up the subject of the administration of the university in its vari-

ous ramifications, and for the result of their labors attention is invited to many important subjects brought out and explained in exhaustive detail by the testimony of the responsible officers of the regents' office.

Under the direction of the present secretary, by authority and sanction of the regents, so many changes in administration have been made and such departure from previous customs effected by which a decided revolution of system has been accomplished, setting aside views and methods of administration long observed by former directors, that much criticism found its way to the attention of the committee, culminating in complaints against the management of the secretary's office; and hence the committee found itself confronted with an investigation into the official conduct of the director of the university. It was not anticipated in the outset that the inquiry would assume such character, as the original intention of the investigation was to ascertain what provision might be required by legislation for necessary means to sustain the university for the accomplishment of its great purpose. The committee was therefore placed in such position that it could not decline, from the nature of the charges made, to proceed to inquire thoroughly into the matters complained of, in justice to the high character of the office of the regents and the persons particularly involved. These charges having been made in public newspapers, assumed a prominence and importance demanding the committee's thorough scrutiny, and every means at command were employed to ascertain the source and truth of every allegation. Much more time was therefore required to prosecute the investigation than would have been necessary to make examination of the condition and ordinary routine of the regents' office. Every opportunity was given to all who might be interested or expressed a desire to be heard, and the committee made every endeavor to secure the attendance of witnesses having any knowledge of the matters and things complained of, in order to set at rest what might otherwise impair the usefulness and dignity of a high public office.

Before entering upon a review of the proceedings had and concluded after exhaustive inquiry, it should be stated that no charge or intimation was made to involve in any respect the official action or personal character of any member of the board of regents. No insinuation was made and nothing implied that could reflect upon any act done by the regents of the university as subversive of the momentous concerns entrusted to their wisdom and care. There had evidently been growing up for some five or six years in certain quarters a spirit of opposition to the vigorous, if not to say aggressive policy of the present director of the university, whose position is somewhat of a dual character, being both director of the regents' office and state librarian. Obsolete practices had been overturned and a new order of things adopted, comprehending to considerable extent a reorganization of the *personnel* of the office as well as the system of work. This un-

avoidably produced more or less friction during the period necessary to put into effective operation what the new conditions required. It is characteristic of old ideas and forms to give way slowly to progressive opinion and policy; hence the introduction and vigorous application of widely different means for accomplishing largest results are met with resistance and disfavor from those whose habits and prejudices had become unconsciously a part of the system sought to be supplanted. In inaugurating the new order of things and adapting the means at command to new situations and requirements, disapproval found expression in various forms. No charge was made that the interests of education had been purposely retarded, or that such innovations had been set up as were calculated to exert an influence injurious to the cause of learning in the relations of the university to the educational institutions of the state.

A man endowed with the progressive spirit, energy, and will displayed by Professor Dewey might be expected to incur opposition, if not hostility, to his conception of duty and responsibility of office. It was therefore apparent that in order to arrest and prevent the execution of his plans under the sanction of the regents to place the work of the university and the management of the library upon a different plane, it was necessary to create a sentiment of disfavor and prejudice by recourse to charges reflecting upon personal conduct complicating official relations. It was charged that Secretary Dewey had used his office for private ends, and these charges were made with such directness and publicity that it became a matter of most serious import. It would not be fair to Secretary Dewey to withhold the statement in this place that he repeatedly demanded most searching examination into all the matters and things contained in any complaint, insinuation, or charge concerning any official act of his or any relation he might have had with any subject or matter in any wise connected with the university. The committee felt bound to spare no time or labor, and exhausted every means and resource to ascertain the truth without regard to whom it might involve or what the consequences.

For the purpose of placing before the legislature the nature and scope of the charges, it will be necessary to refer to communications submitted to the committee appearing in a newspaper published in the city of Albany and which are contained and set out in full in the proceedings. It was charged by the said newspaper, *The State*, that Secretary Dewey had committed offences derogatory to his office in specified particulars. Witnesses were summoned before the committee to testify, and their testimony will be found in the minutes of the proceedings annexed to this report, to which reference is made to sustain the conclusions of the committee and to define the animus and nature of the accusations. It will clearly appear, as your committee believes, that not a single charge involving the integrity and official conduct of the accused was sus-

tained. In weighing all the testimony taken and that could be obtained from witnesses produced, and allowed to testify with the widest latitude, no other result could be reached by the committee than that the charges were not only not sustained, but that by the means and spirit in which they were brought and persistently prosecuted, they were vexatious, frivolous, and detrimental to public interests. . . .

The committee granted the widest latitude in its proceedings, and consented to frequent adjournments for the purpose of giving abundant time and opportunity to show what of truth might be contained in the charges. The author of the article which appeared in the newspaper heretofore mentioned and the editor of the paper were subpoenaed, and gave testimony as to the source of their information. Numerous other witnesses, whose names had been given as authority for the statements, were also produced, but not a scintilla of evidence was brought out to establish a single charge, or what would reflect upon the personal and official integrity of Professor Dewey. Dr. Hall and other persons who had from time to time official and business transactions with Secretary Dewey were mentioned as the sources of the information upon which the newspaper charges were made as appeared in the testimony of Henry Hazelton, the author of the article referred to, then city editor of *The State*, but these witnesses testified that they had no knowledge of the matters contained in the article and had given no information, nor made any statements of the kind attributed to them, either to Mr. Hazelton or anybody else; and thus unsupported by witnesses appearing before the committee, the charges were found to have no foundation whatever in fact or in truth.

It is to be regretted that the name of Dr. Hall was introduced in any such unwarranted manner in connection with a newspaper assault upon a public officer, for its wanton use no doubt precipitated an unpleasant controversy. The charge that Secretary Dewey had used his office to influence and promote his personal interests was not only not sustained, but was disproved in every particular worthy of any consideration, and the committee would not feel that its duty had been fully discharged without condemning the unwarranted liberty taken in the use of names of public officers by a class of sensational news-mongers who unfortunately find ready place in the columns of reckless publications for scandalous reports.

In reviewing the work of the university the committee derived much information with respect to the important interests and responsibilities with which it is charged in relation to literature and higher education. A most thorough and systematic organization of means employed was observed in every department, and it is the opinion of the committee that the management of the university in all its ramifications is wisely and economically administered. In the matter of clerical force employed, it may be observed that while it has increased under the operation of authority provided for

the extension of university work, it has not increased in expense in proportion to the additional labors imposed upon its direction. Some comment was suggested in this connection upon the scale of salaries paid to the employees which did not seem to compare favorably with what clerks or employees received in other departments of public service; but this was fully explained by Secretary Dewey, as may be noticed in his examination, to the effect that persons employed in the university and state library were receiving better pay than those performing like duties in private employment. Furthermore, it was represented that an element of compensation was contained in the nature of the service which fitted the employees for lucrative positions where aptitude was displayed, in the many public libraries throughout the country, and not infrequently applications were made for librarians who had passed through the grades of instruction prescribed by the university. This is specially evidenced by the high standing of the library school, which has attracted so much attention and interest that the regents have not been able, with the facilities and room at their disposal, to make places for all who have applied.

AUTOTYPE REPRODUCTION OF RARE MSS.

A. W. SIJTHOFF, of Leiden, has recently issued the prospectus, with specimen pages, of the ancient manuscripts which he is to publish in photographic reproduction, under the editorial direction of Dr. W. N. Du Rieu, librarian of the University of Leiden. The plan on which these reproductions are issued is already familiar to readers of the JOURNAL, and Dr. Du Rieu in his communication in the March L. J. set forth again the history of the project. It is proposed to include in the first series 12 autotype reproductions, each of which will be edited by Dr. Du Rieu and furnished with a critical and historical introduction. The first manuscript chosen for reproduction, of which specimen pages are now published, is the famous "Vetus Testamentum Graece, Codex Sarravianus-Colbertinus Saec. v.," of which 260 pages are at Leiden, 44 at Paris, and two at St. Petersburg. This will be supplied with a preface by M. Omont, conservateur of the Bibliothèque Nationale, and will cost, bound in mediæval style, \$40.

The other mss. which will be included in the first series are as follows:

Aeschylus. Codex Laurentianus XXXII., 9 saec. x. — XI. — Palaeogr. Society t. 83. Collezione Fiorent. t. ix.

Anthologia Graeca. Codex Palatinus saec. x. — XI. Pars prior = Cod. Heidelberg. 23. Pars altera = Cod. Paris. suppl. Gr. 384. — Wattenbach, Exempla codd. Graec. t. 36. Omont t. 33. (Cf. *Centralblatt f. Bibliothekswesen* ix., page 40.)

Dioscorides. Codex Vindobonensis Gr. 5, cum miniaturis saec. vi. — Palaeogr. Soc. t. 177. cet.

Homeri Ilias. Codex Ambrosianus F. 205. Inf., cum miniaturis saec. v. — Palaeogr. Society t. 39, 40, 50, 51.

Plato. Codex Oxoniensis Bodl. Clarkianus 39 saec. ix. (an. 895). — Wattenbach, Exempla t. 3. Palaeogr. Society t. 81.

Anthologia Latina. Codex Salmasianus Parisinus 10318 saec. vii. — viii. — Zangemeister, Exempla codd. Lat. t. 46.

Horatius. Codex Bernensis 363 saec. ix. — Chatelain, Paléographie d. class. Lat. t. 76, 77.

Livius. Codex Corbeiensis (Puteaneus) Parisinus 5730 saec. v. — vi. — Zangemeister, Exempla t. 19. Palaeogr. Society t. 31, 32. Chatelain, t. 116. cet.

Lucretius. Codex Vossianus Oblongus Leidenensis Voss. L. F. 30 saec. ix. — Chatelain, t. 56, 57.

Tacitus. Codices Medicei Laurentiani 68, 1 — 2 saec. ix. — Collezione Fiorent. t. 2 et 14. Palaeogr. Society t. 11. 90. cet.

Virgilius. Codex Medicus Laurentianus 39, 1 saec. v. — Zangemeister, Exempla t. 10. Palaeogr. Society t. 86. Chatelain, t. 66, 1. cet.

A LIBRARIAN'S TREASURE-TROVE.

WILLIAM MAY, librarian of the Birkenhead (Eng.) Free Public Libraries, is reported to have made recently one of those curious finds in which bibliographers delight. It was while rummaging over a discarded lot of books from a solicitor's shelves that Mr. May stumbled upon an old black-letter volume, which was bound in as the end of another old work. At first he thought he had dropped upon a pure Caxton, but subsequently he found it was even a greater rarity than one of the inventor's works. So rare was the volume that for some days the lucky finder was unable to identify it, but after much looking up of authorities it was shown to be a copy of Bonaventure's "Speculum vite Christi," as it is spelled in the original. This was printed by Wynkyn de Worde in 1494, the year when he returned to the use of Caxton's types; and it is the only book proper in which Caxton's No. 7 type was ever used, that type having been confined to the printing of indulgences, etc. Until Mr. May's discovery the only copy known to collectors was that in the possession of the Earl of Leicester, at Holkham, where William Roscoe discovered so many valuable manuscripts and early books.

Mr. May's copy, which has remained in obscurity so long, has not escaped damage; as a matter of fact, it has evidently been used as a children's scrap-book. The binder has been almost as great a vandal, for he has cut far into the side-notes in several places. The exact number of leaves in the complete book seems to be unknown, but the newly found copy contains 108, and lacks some leaves preceding the signature C iii., and all following R iii. What renders the work of unique interest is the employment of Caxton's rare No. 7 type for the side-notes, which terminate at the signature H, the rest of the notes being in the

same type as the text. There are in this copy 15 large cuts of great beauty, measuring $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and also four smaller cuts similar to those in Caxton's earlier "Speculum." The books among which this treasure was discovered were a personal gift to Mr. May from a friend, so that the "Speculum" is his own property, and is now in his possession.

AS TO AUTHOR CATALOGS.

In the April issue of *The Book-leaf*, the organ of the Denver Public Library, Mr. J. C. Dana says: "We are printing a list of the books in this library in this journal, one department at a time. The list is set on linotype bars—in about 99 per cent. of the cases one bar to an entry. It is an author list. When it is all out we propose to combine all the author lists into one alphabet. The sections of this author list as they appear, and other special lists that we have printed from time to time, give us added evidence, if any were necessary, of the futility of an author catalog." In fiction an author catalog may be of considerable use; and particularly if the public does not have access to the books. In other departments of a library an author list seems to be about as near useless as any kind of a list the library could issue. My advice to the library of limited means, which proposes to issue a brief finding-list of any kind, would be to issue a list alphabetically arranged by titles, modifying the titles wherever necessary to make them indicate somewhat in regard to the contents of the book. This, of course, would be over and above the regular author catalog used for official purposes in the library."

A LIBRARIANS' CHURCH.

THERE is a little church in New York City which has probably a larger proportion of "library people" among its members and visitors than any other place of worship. The brother of the minister is one of the directors of the largest Y. M. C. A. library in the city. (The two brothers, by the way, have inherited and added to the fine private library of their father, which was fully described in Wynne's "Private Libraries of N. Y.," when it numbered 9000 volumes, and which now comprises over 20,000.) The three male members of the little choir of six are librarians: one has charge of the library of a noted club of professional men, another is the young and progressive head of a venerable and well-known subscription library, and the third has been connected for nearly 15 years with a library which is perhaps better known to the general public, by name at least, than any other. A cataloger at the most noted college library in the city is a frequent attendant at the services, as is also a young western librarian who is spending an extended vacation with the pastor's family. Even the organist is an ex-librarian. Yet the congregation often numbers but 50!

American Library Association.

President: J. C. Dana, Public Library, Denver, Col.

Secretary: H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Acting Treasurer: E. L. Anderson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, Pa.

18th Conference, Cleveland, O., Sept. 1-4, 1896.

THE preliminary program of the conference has not yet been issued, but among the features announced are the following:

The new supplement to the A. L. A. catalog will be presented by Miss M. S. Cutler, and an entire session of the conference will be devoted to the discussion of a selected list of books from the supplement, the selecting committee giving their reasons for selection and exclusion.

"Advertising a library" will be the subject of a paper by Miss L. E. Stearns.

"The evaluation of books and annotated book-lists" will be presented by George Iles, of New York.

A session for beginners will be held under the direction of leading members, when all questions submitted will be answered as fully as possible.

A joint session of the Trustees' Section will be held with the A. L. A., which will be attended by many prominent trustees.

The conference headquarters will be at the Hollenden Hotel, and the meetings will be held in the assembly-room of the Chamber of Commerce, about one block from the Hollenden. One afternoon will probably be devoted to a trolley ride, visiting various institutions, and an evening to a reception by the Rowfant Club. The local arrangements at Cleveland are in charge of Mr. Brett, assisted by Miss Mildred Wood and a local committee.

There will be a paper by R. G. Thwaites on "The points of historic interest on the post-conference trip," which will be sent to members with the final program in July. The post-conference trip will begin on September 5, when the party will reach Detroit for breakfast and entertainment by the city, and will proceed thence by boat to Mackinac and other points of interest.

State Library Associations.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

President: J. C. Rowell, Librarian University of California, Berkeley.

Secretary: A. M. Jellison, Librarian Mechanics' Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE April meeting of the Library Association of Central California was held at Alameda, Cal. President Rowell presided, and the topic of the evening was "Pulpit, press, and public

library as means of influencing public opinion and elevating humanity."

Rev. George R. Dodson, of the First Unitarian Church, was introduced as the first speaker, and he presented a thoughtful discourse on the effect of books on modern life and society, and particularly on the pulpit.

"Every influence that tends to the enlightenment of the people," he said, "reacts beneficially upon the pulpit. A reading public necessitates an educated ministry. Libraries and schools force the preacher upward. A candle could give light in mediæval darkness. To-day there must be intelligence in the pulpit or the pews will be empty. On the other hand it is a very great help to a minister to have his people read. For he can then teach them things that were otherwise impossible. The press, pulpit, and library are to be regarded as co-operating and mutually healthful factors in the elevation of humanity, *i.e.*, in its salvation."

T. G. Daniells then spoke on the press. After comparing the newspaper a hundred years ago with that of to-day, and otherwise illustrating the progress of the press, he said: "The newspaper of a third or a quarter of a century ago wielded its influence through its editorial columns. That was the era of personality in newspaper-making; it was the golden age of the great editor. To speak of Greeley in that day was instantly to suggest the New York *Tribune*. To refer to the New York *Herald* was to call to mind the elder Bennett. The *Evening Post* and William Cullen Bryant were synonymous, and the Louisville *Journal* was known because George D. Prentice edited it. But if the editor has lost something of his conspicuousness, and the editorial department something of its size, the newspaper has been vastly expanded otherwise, and the expansion has increased its power of influencing public opinion and elevating humanity. The press of to-day has popularized science. It instantly seizes upon the latest discoveries and deductions, and places them before the people. It is the only up-to-date encyclopædia. Of course, like every other institution, it has unworthy representatives, but they are happily in the minority. The best examples and the greatest number of modern newspapers, without being given to cant or humbug, stand for morality and the right, strive for enlightenment and progress."

Ergo Majors, a member of the Alameda High School, followed with a paper on "The benefits of the public library to students," and D. J. Sullivan, superintendent of schools, spoke *ex tempore*, to declare that the helpfulness of the public library to the schools cannot be overestimated. If there were a question of closing the schools or the library, it would be a difficult one to solve, for the influence of the library at this time is so great and far-reaching that it stands co-ordinate in importance to the public schools. Not only the teachers and the pupils but also the pulpit and the press go to the library for inspiration.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: C. R. Dudley, City Library, Denver.

Secretary: John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

Treasurer: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. K. Stetson, Public Library, New Haven.

Secretary: Miss M. A. Richardson, Public Library, New London.

Treasurer: Mrs. F. W. Robinson, Otis Library, Norwich.

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Thomas Nelson, Public Library, East St. Louis, Ill.

Secretary: Miss E. L. Moore, Withers Public Library, Bloomington.

Treasurer: P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Rollin A. Kautz, Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago, Ill.

IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.

President: J. W. Rich, State University Library, Iowa City.

Secretary: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

THE proceedings of the sixth annual meeting of the association held in connection with the State Teachers' Association on January 1 and 2, and reported in the March number of the JOURNAL, have been reprinted for general distribution by the state superintendent of public instruction. The pamphlet forms state circular of information No. 3, 1896. It includes the program of the meeting, full minutes, list of members present, and two of the papers read, *i.e.*, "The library as a necessary factor in educational work," by H. H. Seerley, and "Close *vs.* broad classification," by Mary R. Whitcomb.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Secretary: Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

A MEETING of the Maine Library Association was held in the capitol at Augusta on March 12, and in spite of unfavorable weather there was a very good attendance. The morning session was devoted to business details and the election of officers. The following were chosen for the ensuing year: President, E. W. Hall, librarian of Colby College; Vice-presidents, Mrs. M. H. Curran, librarian of the Bangor Free Library, and Miss Alice C. Furbish, librarian of the Portland Public Library; Secre-

tary, Miss H. C. Fernald, of Maine State College, Orono; Treasurer, Prof. George T. Little, librarian of Bowdoin College. The rest of the morning was devoted to an inspection of the state library, under the guidance of State Librarian Carver and his assistant, E. W. Emery, and to the informal discussion of library topics.

The afternoon meeting was held in the senate chamber, and each subject presented was followed by general and free discussion. The opening paper, by Miss H. C. Fernald, was on "Organization and management of public libraries." In the discussion that followed, Mr. Carver gave an extended discourse upon the laws relating to the organization of the libraries, and the inducements which the state offered. He also offered suggestions on the selection of books, and the reading of criticisms in periodicals; to what extent and in what way to accept them.

Colonel Fred Atwood, to whom the organization of the Winterport Free Library is largely due, gave a description of the organization and management of the library. He said that each subscriber paid \$3 for the support of the organization at first, the library having been open a part of one day of the week. As the funds grew and the interest spread the opening time was extended. On the first day 11 volumes were issued, the next week 20; after a few weeks 167 were delivered, and recently 260 volumes were given out in one week. The library now has about 1000 volumes and has been a success in every way.

Miss Sarah B. Nichols, of the Calais Free Library, spoke of the care to be used in regard to the selection of books. She told of a legacy from J. S. Pike, amounting to \$15,000, of which it is now possible to use the interest on about \$5000. The conditions of Mr. Pike's bequest were such that no book can be purchased unless it has been published 10 years.

In regard to the Bangor Library, it was stated that most of the books were purchased by the librarian, but that expensive and doubtful books were left to a special committee.

In the absence of the Rev. W. W. Ranney, of Auburn, who was to read a paper on "Necessity of public libraries in country towns," Superintendent of Schools Stetson offered a few words in regard to the Auburn Library.

A valuable paper was then read by Prof. E. W. Hall, librarian of Colby College Library, on "The value and use of reference-books."

Prof. G. T. Little, librarian of Bowdoin College Library, followed with a paper on "Selection of books for free public libraries." Mr. Little said, in part: "The first and great difficulty is to decide wisely and fairly how far any particular free public library is to go in furnishing entertaining as distinct from instructive or educational reading. In a word, how much can it spend on popular novels and juveniles? Few of us who are not directly connected with free libraries in large places can realize the large amount of money that can be spent in meeting the demand for such books. I once heard Judge Chamberlain, when in charge of the Boston Public Library, say that he could in-

crease its circulation by 50,000 by simply buying a few hundred copies of Oliver Optic and Horatio Alger's last books. When the 'Tribby' rage was upon us, even the smallest library could have used a half dozen copies, if it sincerely attempted to meet the demands of its readers. Since Miss Evans published 'St. Elmo,' there have appeared some of the best novels of Dickens, Thackeray, and George Eliot, and yet I venture to say that it would cost any public library three times as much to meet the demand for books of the former as of the latter type. In a word, popular and sensational novels are of the nature of sweetmeats. If a free library furnishes candy, the demand will be large.

"A second difficulty lies in avoiding immoral books. Every one agrees that a public library must not lower the moral tone of a community. Every one agrees that the public circulation of some books will lower the moral tone. But no one agrees as to just what books will do this. The difficulty is increased by the obvious fact that what is food for one person may be poison to another. A book, moreover, whose aid is to elevate and improve, may have such marked blemishes in places against good taste, not to say decency, as to make it problematical whether these will not more than neutralize the good to come from the book itself. For instance, I should, on the whole, rule out of a public library, on this ground, a book by Dr. Dio Lewis, entitled 'Chastity,' and written with the best of motives. But the most dangerous and at the same time the most difficult to guard against, are novels written by authors of high literary standing and issued by houses of good repute, which nevertheless have either scattered through them or woven into their texture what must in plain English be called filth. There are certain descriptions of vice and sin which are given in such detail with such realism that one cannot read and comprehend them without being more or less polluted. The danger from such books is increased when, as happened lately, they appear in two forms. Mr. Hardy's novel of 'Jude the obscure' came out as a serial in *Harper's Monthly*. Published as a separate book by the same firm, we find in it page after page of objectionable matter to which the editor of the magazine refused admittance but which the publishers and author have insisted the public libraries should place before their patrons, if they buy the novel.

"The third and last difficulty which I will mention is that of ascertaining before purchase which among half a dozen new books on some subject of general interest is the best for the library in question. Most of us are compelled to select, and our trouble in deciding lies partly in the number of books, partly in the high character which, judging from the advertisements, every one of them has. In the first place, I think that all selection of new books for a free public library should aim at what, for want of a better term, I may call symmetry. In other words, the selectors must have a certain ideal before them. That ideal must obviously vary with

different communities. But it must exist, and to a degree control the purchases. In one place it may call for the expenditure of half the income in buying fiction; in another town it may call for the purchase of books on the useful arts to an extent at which a college library would stand abashed. The point is that the buying must not be haphazard. My own experience in library work leads me to feel more and more strongly the necessity of the librarian's having some knowledge of the scope and character of every new book added to his collection. He cannot, of course, always gain it from a personal examination of the volume, but let him strive to obtain it somehow. Whoever selects the books, let the custodian make himself capable of passing judgment on the wisdom of the selection."

After the meeting the members visited the Lithgow Library, where they were entertained by Miss Julia M. Clapp, the librarian, and her assistant, Miss Jennie Patterson.

In the evening the association, with a large percentage of outsiders, assembled in the Unitarian church to listen to a lecture on "Books" by Rev. E. E. Newbert. This session concluded with an enjoyable social gathering in the vestry of the church, where refreshments were served. Before adjournment the association tendered a general vote of thanks to State Librarian Carver and Mr. Emery.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: C. K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline.

Secretary: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

Treasurer: Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

On April 8 the club, accompanied by the vice-director and members of the New York State Library School,* visited Bridgewater, where they were hospitably entertained by the trustees of the Public Library. On the way from the train the party visited the library, which is housed in the building erected by the town as a memorial to the soldiers of the civil war. One room contains a very fine collection of antiquities, Indian and other; the remainder of the building is devoted to the library.

The club next adjourned to the town hall, where President Bolton called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

Rev. Theodore F. Wright, of Cambridge, formerly of Bridgewater, welcomed the club, sketching the history of the town and of the library, and touching upon the opportunities afforded the librarian in a country town of having a personal acquaintance and personal influence with all the frequenters of the library. Mr. Wright did not speak of his own part in the establishment of the library, but the fact that its existence was largely owing to his

energy and public spirit made his address peculiarly appropriate.

The subject for the day was then taken up — "The public library in its relation to the social life of the community." No papers were read, but the topic was discussed conversationally, according to the following questions, propounded by the president:

"Do you try to get acquainted with different classes and sections of your town?"

"How far do you try to help people along the lines of their hobbies?"

"Do you attempt to join the local organizations for charity, debate, etc.?"

"In how far do you consider the special peculiarities of your town, as to local problems in administration, trade, religion, etc.?"

"Do you strive to make the library an intellectual and social centre?"

Miss Nina Browne advised librarians to make the acquaintance of the president of the local trade union; through him acquaintance with other local leaders among workmen could be had, and much could be learned of their peculiar needs, so that such books as they wished and needed could be provided for them. Nothing is more needed than to make artisans and the leaders of trades unions believe that the library exists for their benefit, and induce them to use it for informing themselves on economic matters and all questions of the day.*

Mr. Gardner M. Jones thought the librarian should make himself familiar with the geography of his town — with the geography of nature and the geography of man, and should keep the run of all matters that affect the public interests, but that he should keep out of personal local politics entirely. The librarian should join the local historical society and the local society of natural history; beyond that he should show an interest in all such organizations and be willing to serve them, but should consult his personal preferences as to joining them. He should not let his church affiliation affect the administration of the library.

Dr. Farnham, of Randolph, said that at their library they never repelled any seeker after truth, and encouraged even the cranks. He urged the importance of very minute cataloging as essential to getting the full usefulness of a small collection of books.

In reply to a question from the president, Miss Stanley, of Southbridge, said that there was a large French population in Southbridge, but that they did not read much. The library circulation of French books (of which they had 300 vols.) was 11%. She did not agree with those who believed that foreigners should not be supplied with books in their own language but should be expected to learn English.

* Apart from other and graver reasons for this course, it may be doubted whether those who are trying to reduce the percentage of fiction in the circulation at their libraries can find a more promising means than by work along the lines here indicated. Without being hostile to fiction, or admitting that those who want to read novels ought to buy them, one may yet desire the increase of more serious reading. — W. H. T.

* It was hoped that the members of the Pratt Institute Library class would also be present, but the shortness of their stay in the vicinity of Boston deprived us of the pleasure.

Mr. Houghton, of Lynn, had some French books in his library, but they were not read. He regarded a catalog as subservient to personal help. Nine times out of 10 a person gets hold of the wrong book through a catalog. Find out just what each reader wants. Most readers have very definite ideas of what they want, though they may not know where to look for it, or even how to ask for it. Hobbies are good. People with hobbies know something and want to know more, and the librarian knows just what to give them next time. They are a push to the librarian and assistants, whom their demands help to educate.

Mr. Champlin asked if Mr. Houghton would help people who came to look up answers to questions in magazines in order to get a chromo.

Mr. Houghton thought he should. The information thus obtained was valuable even if it were got for the sake of a prize.

Mr. Bolton spoke of a child who came to him for help and was induced to read about half the "Odyssey" while searching for one answer. He did not see what right a public official had to deny help to readers even if they came in the hope of getting a chromo or joining a patriotic society.

Mr. Wellman, of the Boston Athenæum, thought much depended on how help was given. To teach a person how to look up a subject was worth the time it took.

Mrs. Sanders said that a librarian should give all the time needed to helping people to get what they come for, no matter what that is. At the Pawtucket library she had recently introduced book-marks with the legend "When in doubt consult the Public Library," and one was placed in every book.

Mr. Pennock, of New Bedford, thought that the library ought to be an aggressive force in the community.

Mr. A. C. Boyden, of the Normal School and a trustee of the Bridgewater library, then invited the club to take dinner at Central Square Church, and afterward to visit the normal school. The club adjourned, and after a pleasant meal was conducted over the large new building of the normal school and shown the school in actual operation. It is hardly too much to say that the admirable arrangements of the building and the evidence of careful training and actual practice in teaching were a surprise and delight to all.*

The afternoon session opened at 3:15 p.m.

The president announced that the next meeting, by invitation of Mr. C. A. Cutter, would be held at the Forbes library in Northampton, early in June.

The secretary having distributed some copies of Mr. Crandall's "First draft" of a bill for the better printing and binding of public

documents, the president asked if the club wished to take any action as to endorsing the bill. Upon a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. C. A. Cutter, the matter was referred to the executive committee.*

A committee consisting of Mr. Faxon, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Jones, Miss M. E. Sargent, and Miss Thurston was appointed to consider and report upon the practicability and desirability of maintaining a permanent club-room in Boston available for meetings of the executive committee (but not for club meetings), for deposit of books, specimens, etc., belonging to the club, and for use of members visiting the city. Upon motion of Mr. C. A. Cutter a vote of thanks to the trustees and librarian of the Bridgewater Public Library, to Rev. Mr. Wright, and to the principal of the normal school was adopted.

Mr. Jones called attention to a list of questions sent out by the committee on lists of select fiction, by which it is hoped to learn whether the "Lists of select fiction" issued by the club during the present year have proved themselves of sufficient service to justify an attempt to find ways and means for continuing the publication. The club is not able to meet the cost of the work from its annual income. Mr. Jones also asked for volunteers for readers.

Mr. C. A. Cutter described an exhibition which he had just held of 500 Sella photographs of scenery in the high Alps and the Caucasus. The collection belongs to the Appalachian Mt. Club (9 Park st., Boston), and will be loaned to any institution in the United States for exhibition, on payment of expressage. He would soon have an exhibition of photographs from the Soule Photograph Co.; in this case the company bears the entire cost and sends a man to hang and take down the pictures.

Mr. Bolton, in recalling the subject of the day, alluded to possibilities in libraries in the way of conversation-rooms, etc., which might hereafter seem as natural as the lunch-counter in public schools. He called upon Miss Cutler, of the New York State Library School, who said: "The successful librarian must be a student of society; he must get a sympathetic grip of all the great questions which stir our age. He must be a student of his own town, and know the bosses, the labor leaders, the clergy, the manufacturers, the charitable people, reporters, policemen, and reformers. Why? In order to reach the entire population through their natural leaders; to get at the spirit of civic life, and make himself an essential part of the civic life." Miss Cutler then spoke of the supplement to the A. L. A. catalog, now in preparation, proofs of which will be sent out about July 1. All are asked to vote upon the titles submitted, and to add comments upon the

* One of the schools of the town from the kindergarten to the ninth grade is conducted in the Normal School building. At the afternoon session the normal pupils assist the regular teachers. The laboratory system is everywhere in evidence, each class-room being supplied with specimens, pictures, and books. There is, besides, a general library.

* The executive committee, having considered the bill, sent a letter heartily approving it and urging its enactment, to the committee on printing, and to the senators and representatives from Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

books. In concluding, Miss Cutler thanked the club and the librarians for the kind reception which the school had everywhere met.

Mr. Payson, of Norton, described their library, which was founded under the corporation law, but receives help from the town, and has three selectmen on the governing board. They have many isolated families to provide for, and to these they send such old books as have been twice bound, without caring whether they are returned or not. He hoped that the club would send a delegate to attend the annual meeting of the trustees.*

Mr. Crane, of Taunton, thought that libraries ought to be so planned that the privilege of exhibitions and other social opportunities could be extended more freely to the people. We ought to be able to accommodate more of the floating masses, to entertain them and instruct them.

Mr. Bolton asked whether public receptions at the library would work to break down lines between classes, or whether the presence of certain sections of the population would tend to keep other sections from attending in the future?

Miss Newhall, of Saugus, told of a public reception held at their library on the night of one of the worst storms known in the town. Provision had been made for 300, but only 47 came. She intended to try it again this year. A committee of 12 was appointed to introduce people and look after those who were not used to attending receptions. The invitation was general and was given through the newspapers.

An account was also given of a library reception held in a small town in Vermont where several hundred attended, some coming 10 miles or more. Ice-cream and cake were provided. There were no addresses. The efficiency of the library had been greatly increased. The invitation was given in the newspapers and also from house to house.

Mr. Ray gave an account of the annual reception held in the library-room of the Young Men's Christian Union on the last Wednesday in May. This is entirely informal, open to the public, to ladies as well as gentlemen. Many young men join after each of these receptions.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. About 150 people were in attendance.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary*.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

Treasurer: Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. W. Bailey, Nashua.

Corresponding Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Librarian and Treasurer: Miss A. M. Colby, Public Library, Concord.

THE annual meeting of the association will be held in Claremont, in July. A plan for reorganization will be one of the subjects for discussion.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Cornelia A. See, Public Library, New Brunswick.

Secretary: Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. N. Larned, Buffalo Library, Buffalo.

Secretary: W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

A MEETING of the association will be held in Syracuse, N. Y., on May 29-30, at the Syracuse Central Library. The following program will be presented, subject, of course, to slight modifications:

Friday, May 29, 2:30 p.m.

Address of welcome. James K. McGuire, mayor.

President's address. J. N. Larned, Buffalo.

The library situation in central New York.

W. R. Eastman, Albany.

How we started our library movement. B. G. Clapp, Fulton.

A library association or a public library? Fred Van Dusen, Ogdensburg.

6 p.m.

Entertainment by Syracuse Central Library.

8 p.m.

Reading as a factor in education. James R. Day, D.D., Chancellor Syracuse University.

The opportunity of the teacher to influence the reading of the young. Fox Holden, Olean. Libraries as educators. Melvil Dewey, Albany.

Saturday, May 30, 9 a.m.

The opportunity of the librarian to influence the reading of the community. A. L. Peck, Gloversville.

How to advertise a library. W. D. Manro, Rome.

The value of a library to a rural community, and how to secure it. Anna R. Phelps.

The vote on the best 50 books of 1895. Mary S. Cutler.

Council table.

* The annual meeting was held on April 20, and the president of the club attended and made an address.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: D. A. Campbell, State Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Mary Jones, State University, Lincoln.

Treasurer: Miss Carrie C. Dennis, Public Library, Lincoln.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland.

Secretary: Miss Alice Boardman, State Library, Columbus.

Treasurer: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: John Thomson, Free Library, Philadelphia.

Secretary: C. S. Kates, Free Library, Branch 5, West Phila., Phila.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. A. Resag, Institute Free Library, Phila.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

Library Clubs.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

Secretary: Miss May L. Bennett, Armour Institute.

Treasurer: W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. F. Stevens, Railroad Branch Y. M. C. A., New York.

Secretary: Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Treasurer: Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: Dr. Cyrus Adler, Smithsonian Institution.

Secretary and Treasurer: F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 15th meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held on March 29, 1896, Dr. Cyrus Adler presiding.

The paper of the evening, furnished by Miss A. R. Hasse, was entitled "'Some bad features of good books'—continued"; that having been the title of Dr. H. C. Bolton's paper at the last meeting.

Miss Hasse maintained that Dr. Bolton had criticised the early book-makers somewhat severely, in calling attention to many points open to censure, and concluding his subject with the first half of this century. Had he brought it down to date, he would have found that the largest publishing concern on this continent is daily committing solecisms against all the rules which librarians and their cult hold most sacred.

She then gave example after example of books issued by the United States Government whose faults in many respects equalled others mentioned by Dr. Bolton, and stated that all of those cited were printed since 1895, showing that we end-of-the-century people, instead of improving upon our predecessors, have not only continued their "bad features," but have added others of our own invention. An instance in pagination in the pamphlet laws of the third session of the 53d Congress certainly bore out her argument. Its many series in both Roman and Arabic numerals are too numerous to quote here. One octavo pamphlet of 207 pages was shown, having 155 words on its title-page, set up in 13 kinds of type; and the compiler refused to abbreviate it, saying "not a word could be spared." "Parting" and "vol-um-ing" led the speaker to declare that "it is senseless absurdity to call a book 'Part 2, of part 2, of volume 4, of part 5, of no. 1, of part 2, of volume 14'." (H. Ex. v. 14. 54-1).

Her summary we can all agree to, viz., "That it is not at all surprising the government of the United States has not a catalog of its publications, for the inconsistency with which these publications are issued makes cataloging, 'as she is taught,' or cataloging in any sense of the word, almost a physical impossibility."

The remainder of the evening was spent discussing H. R. bill 8213, which is designed "to simplify the methods of printing and binding of public documents," etc., etc. A number of criticisms were made, but all agreed with the sentiment expressed in a letter which was read from Librarian A. R. Spofford, "This is a long step in the right direction."

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

New York State Library School.

BOSTON VISIT.

THE usual annual trip of the Library School students to visit and inspect the libraries of near-by cities brought them this year to Boston, where they arrived on the evening of April 1. The party was generally by Miss M. S. Cutler and numbered in all 35. Before reaching Boston the party had visited Springfield, where the City Library, Art Museum, and Wadsworth Athenæum were inspected; had been the guests of Miss Hewins at a reception at the Hartford Public Library; had visited the Watkinson Library, the Hartford Theological Seminary Library, the Connecticut State Library; and at Northampton had been conducted by

Mr. Cutter through the Forbes Library and the library of Smith College.

The first day in Boston, April 2, was devoted to the Athenæum; the Boston Book Co., where luncheon was served and where they were met by the visiting library class of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, whose experiences are related elsewhere; to the State Library and to the Library Bureau; and in the evening to a reception given to the visiting librarians by Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Davidson at their home in East Watertown.

Friday, April 3, was a holiday, and the members of the party scattered, some to visit the Art Museum and kindred places of interest, others to shop or visit friends.

On Saturday the Riverside Press, at Cambridge, was visited in the morning, and the afternoon was given up to the Brookline Public Library, where the members were cordially welcomed by Mr. Bolton. At noon an address on library training was made by Miss Cutler before the Nineteenth Century Club. Sunday was chiefly devoted to the Boston Public Library, which proved one of the most instructive and delightful features of the trip. The remainder of the itinerary was as follows: Monday, Harvard College Library, Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge Public Library; Tuesday, Salem Public Library, Essex Institute, Peabody Academy of Science, Salem Athenæum; Wednesday, Massachusetts Library Club meeting at Bridgewater; and Thursday, Boston Public Library again, with a flying visit to Wellesley College Library.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS. BOSTON VISIT.

SURELY three days were never more full of interest, profit, and pleasure than those recently spent in Boston by the Pratt Institute Training Class. On April 2 the invading party reached the Park square station, where they were met by Miss Browne, of the Library Bureau, with a welcome so cordial as to atone for the pouring rain with which Boston greeted us. After a hasty breakfast at the Parker House we sallied forth, in spite of wind and weather, to investigate the Library Bureau at 146 Franklin street. We were cordially greeted by Mr. H. E. Davidson and others of the force and shown about the ample rooms, where every necessity, convenience, and luxury of library equipment is displayed. We were next taken out to the factory, where we saw catalog cases, trays, and shelves in the process of construction, and watched with interest the processes through which the large sheets of white paper passed until they were transformed into the white card with red and blue rulings, so familiar to all catalogers. From the factory we were escorted by our kind guides, Mr. Davidson and Mr. Parker, to the Boston Book Company on Beacon street, where we had been invited to lunch with the Library School from Albany and the librarians of the vicinity. Mr. C. C. Soule,

the president of the company, said in his address of welcome that the Boston Book Company was 20th in size among the libraries of the country. Before its organization it was impossible to obtain sets of periodicals guaranteed to be perfect, but it undertook to furnish perfect sets, and had thus fixed a standard to which other dealers had been forced to conform, whereby the library profession has been the gainer.

The next visit was to the Boston Athenæum, directly across the way. Mr. Lane met us and took us to the trustees' room, an interesting room hung with pictures, surrounded with statuary, and containing about 1200 books from the library of Washington at Mt. Vernon. Mr. Lane gave us a most suggestive talk about methods and work peculiar to the library. Nothing we saw or heard was more helpful or likely to be more fruitful than the hour we passed discussing their new plan for indexing illustrations in art-books, their method of treating government documents (by far the best way of disposing of that vexed question that we have yet seen), and their equally ingenious method of keeping track of continuations, annuals, transactions of societies, and the like. We then spent an hour or more going over the library, noting the famous Cutter classification, examining their no less famous catalog, and visiting with especial interest the bindery, where we discovered that they bound almost everything in red morocco, which seemed to us the height of library luxury.

That evening the class attended a reception given by Mr. and Mrs. Davidson to the Albany School, the members of the Massachusetts Library Club, and to our own party. The fatigue of the day was forgotten, and we were conscious only of the cordial hospitality and kindness of our host and their friends.

Friday morning we met at the Parker House, and started for the Children's Aid Society, where Mr. Birtwell and Mr. Pickering received us. We spent an hour discussing the home libraries that have been so successfully carried on in Boston. This was of especial interest to the members of the Library Chapter of the Pratt Institute Neighborhood Association, and we received many suggestions that we hope to use in our own work. It was with difficulty we tore ourselves away from this interesting talk; but a morning at the Boston Public Library, the Mecca of our journey, was before us. We were shown over the building by Mr. Herbert Putnam, Mr. Whitney, the head cataloger, Miss McGuffey, the head of the circulating department, and Mr. Russell, the librarian's assistant. Most interesting were the rooms devoted to special collections, music, fine arts, etc., the magnificent reference-room, Bates Hall, the newspaper-room, where 250 papers from all nationalities and tongues are on file, the children's room, large but already inadequate, the bindery, and the printing-office, where the entries for the catalog, special lists, etc., are printed by linotype machines. After this inspection we returned to the office, where Mr. Putnam invited us to question him on

whatever we wished to know about the library. In response to questions, he told of the relation of the library to the public schools, its co-operation with the college settlement, the connection between the library and its branches. Subjects of interest were inexhaustible, and so, apparently, were the patience and kindness of our host, but time would not stay for us, and so we left regretfully, and with many a lingering look behind us we crossed Copley Square in search of luncheon. The afternoon was spent at Cambridge, the Harvard library being the chief object of interest. Mr. Justin Winsor spent an hour talking to us about the treasures of the library. Mr. Tillinghast explained the methods of cataloging, ordering, etc., and then these gentlemen escorted us about, giving us a glimpse of their collections of rare and valuable books, mss., maps, etc. The day ended with a flying visit to the Cambridge Public Library, a very active, modern institution, evidently a power for good in the community which it serves with a refreshing absence of red-tape and formalism.

Saturday morning was spent at Wellesley College, inspecting the buildings as well as the library.

One of the most gratifying and, to a New Yorker, surprising features of the trip was the general interest shown in this visit of the library schools. The events of each day were chronicled in the papers. Library trustees and publishers as well as librarians gave us cordial greeting, we were entertained with most cordial hospitality, and not the least honor was an invitation to representatives of the two parties to address the Twentieth Century Club at their weekly luncheon, Saturday, on the work of the respective schools. The party from Pratt Institute returned on Saturday evening, weary, but full of enthusiasm over the sights seen and the kindness experienced.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE.

SUMMER COURSES IN LIBRARY SCIENCE.

MADISON, WIS.

A Summer School of Library Science will be held at Madison, Wis., in connection with the University Summer School, beginning on Monday, July 6, and continuing through Friday, August 14, 1896. The course will be adapted to the needs of librarians, assistants, and teachers. Methods of buying, accessioning, cataloging, and lending books will be taught, with other details of library economy and management. Cataloging will be given special attention. Instruction will occupy three hours each day, and from two to three hours of independent work will be expected of each student. The tuition fee will be \$15 for the six weeks' course. Full information may be obtained by addressing the director, Miss Katharine L. Sharp, Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, Ill., Dr. E. A. Birge, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis., or Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.

ALBANY, N. Y.

THE first summer session of the New York State Library School will begin July 7, 1896,

and will last for five weeks. The course will be conducted by graduates of the school, with special lectures from the regular faculty. At the close of the session Regents' examinations will be given and certificates awarded to successful candidates. Only the simplest methods and most elementary work in cataloging, classification, accessioning, shelf-listing, loan systems, and bibliography will be taken up. Only those who hold credentials for the completion of a full four-year academic or high-school course, or its equivalent, will be admitted. For those engaged in library work in New York state, and who meet the admission requirements, instruction will be provided without charge as part of the work of the public libraries division; to all others the fee for the five weeks' course is \$20.

Reviews.

GADD, L. H. Catalogue of the Maryland State Library. Annapolis, 1895. Pt. 1: Law department, 10+379 p.; Pt. 2: Department of general literature, 4+268 p. O.

The copy before us is gilt-edged and handsomely bound, the two parts in one volume, with an equal number of blank pages bound in for insertions. It will look well on the shelf, delighting the eye; and this is probably the best that can be said of this catalog, as a catalog. It may be added, however, that the printer has done his part of the work very well.

There is a three-page historical sketch of the library and a list of the state librarians, with the term of office of each. The library was established under an act of the legislature passed Feb. 2, 1827.

It is evident that Librarian Gadd did not consult the Peabody catalog to any purpose, if at all, in the preparation of his own volume. There is nothing to tell at a glance the character of the books on the page—no running titles; and there is no index. At the beginning of each of the two parts is a table of contents, partly arranged in alphabetical order. In this table of contents for part 1 we find the entry "Subject catalog," and on turning to the pages indicated we discover works on "Life insurance," "Liberia," "Remedies," "Lunacy," etc. Truly this catalog must be used to be appreciated.

S: H. R.

MASSACHUSETTS F. P. L. COMMISSION. Sixth report, 1896. Public document, no. 44. Boston, 1896. 83 p. O.

The record of the work accomplished by the commission in 1895 is most gratifying testimony to the value of state encouragement of libraries. When the commission was organized in 1890 there were 125 towns in the state without a public library; there are now but 24, some of which are planning to start libraries, and nearly all of which contain association libraries. All of these towns have been urged by the commission to join the library ranks. During the year 10 towns have established li-

braries under the acts of 1890, 1892, or 1894, and have been supplied with books by the commission. Of the total population of the state, 2,500,183, only 40,364, or 1 $\frac{2}{3}$ %, are without access to free libraries.

Among the interesting features of the report are notes of the work of the Women's Education Association, and of the "Select lists of fiction" published by the Massachusetts Library Club; a capital symposium, made up of suggestions from librarians of the state, on "The best means of making a small library useful"; information as to library commissions in other states; and record of the library gifts and new buildings of the year. The tabulated statistics comprise the towns of the state, classified to show their varying library privileges; a list of the free public libraries of Massachusetts, arranged by counties, giving information as to population, library income, number of volumes, circulation, book and salary expenditure, number of branches, etc.; a list of free public reading-rooms, including data as to number of publications kept and hours of use; names of free public libraries and names of librarians, arranged alphabetically by towns; and a "Roll of honor" listing donors of public library buildings in Massachusetts.

PUTNAM, G: Haven. Books and their makers during the Middle Ages: a study of the conditions of the production and distribution of literature from the fall of the Roman Empire to the close of the 17th century. In 2 v. v. 1, 476-1600. New York, G: P. Putnam's Sons, 1896. c. 38+459 p. O. cl., \$2.50.

The present work was foreshadowed in Mr. Putnam's earlier book on "Authors and their public in ancient times," in which he stated that he hoped later "to trace the development of property in literature from the time of the invention of printing down to the present day." The first part of that task is now accomplished, in this handsome volume of some 500 pages, in which the record of book-makers and book-making is brought from the fifth to the 16th century; the second part, covering only the period from 1600 to 1710, will form a volume of equal dimensions. The detail and thoroughness with which Mr. Putnam has performed his labor are remarkable. He gives a valuable bibliography of "works cited or referred to as authorities," which covers 11 pages and lists about 500 volumes in various languages and of all ages, and he has evidently sought out and assimilated all the available material relating to his subject. In the sifting, arrangement, and presentation of this mass of information he has kept firm hold of his main purpose, the exhibition of the conditions surrounding the production and distribution of literature, so that the work—which might easily have become either an inchoate mass of valuable material, or a dry-as-dust bibliographic chronicle—preserves distinct continuity of thought and interest.

Beginning with the downfall of the Roman Empire, Mr. Putnam traces the production of books in Europe through the Middle Ages,

showing by what means were preserved the remaining fragments of classic literature, and through what agencies the intellectual spirit was sustained. Naturally the first of these agencies is found in the church, whose monasteries were the centres of the authorship, the publishing, and the book-preservation of the times. With the invention of printing came the wonderful revolution in book-making and distribution, the rise of the printer-publisher, the growth of private and public collections, and the development of the idea of property in literature. The work is thus divided naturally into two parts: Part 1, "Books in manuscript," covers 312 of the 500 pages, and is devoted to the making of books in monasteries, describing many of the monkish scribes, the details of scribe work, the work and influence of the *scriptorium*, the monastery schools and libraries, and the ecclesiastical regulations for the use and exchange of books; some public and private libraries of the manuscript period; the making of books in the early universities; and the book trade in the manuscript period. The chapters devoted to the mediæval libraries are of special interest to the librarians of to-day, and are full of quaint and interesting details. One, at least, we cannot refrain from quoting. It is an "advertisement" found in a copy of Locke's "Treatise on the Epistles," printed in 1711, and runs thus:

"Since, to the great reproach of the nations and a much greater one of our Holy Religion, the thievish disposition of some that enter into libraries to learn there no good, hath made it necessary to secure the innocent books, and even the sacred volumes themselves, with chains (which are better deserved by those ill persons who have too much learning to be hanged and too little to be honest), care should be taken hereafter that as additions shall be made to this library (of which there is a hopeful expectation), the chains should neither be longer nor more clumsy than the use of them requires, and that the loops whereby they are fastened to the books may be riveted on such a part of the cover and so smoothly as not to gall or raze the books while these are removed from or to their respective places."

Another collection of books, the property of Isidore, Bishop of Seville (c. 560-636), was guarded with the following inscription:

"Non patitur quemquam coram se scriba loquentem ;

Non est hic quod agas, garrule, perge foras.

"(The scribe allows no one to speak in his presence; there is nothing for you to do here, chatterbox; you had better go outside)"—a motto which, Mr. Putnam remarks, "would serve very well for a reading-room of to-day."

Part 2, relating to "The earlier printed books," contains but three chapters and occupies hardly a third of the work. In the first chapter the influence of the Renaissance, as forerunner of the printing-press, is explained, and the others are devoted to the invention of printing, and the lives and methods of the men associated with it. The early printers of Hol-

land and Germany are the subject of chapter 2; the third and last is devoted to the printer-publishers of Italy, especial space being given to Aldus and his successors.

The great interest and value of Mr. Putnam's work have here been but slightly indicated. It is one of the most notable of recent contributions to the literature of bibliography—in the broadest sense of the word—and it should be read by all librarians who would know the beginnings and the history of that literature, in the "distribution," if not in the "production," of which their lot is cast. H. E. H.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

BURGOYNE, Frank J., and Ballinger, J.: Books for village libraries; with notes upon the organization and management of village libraries, by James D. Brown. London, Simpkin, 1895. (Library Association ser., no. 6.) 46 p. O. net, 1 s.

Intended as a guide to the organization and administration of village libraries, but hardly enough in line with American methods to prove of practical use in this country. Brief instructions as to the most elementary methods of classifying, cataloging, accessioning, shelving, charging, etc., are given by Mr. Brown, of the Clerkenwell Public Library, and these are followed by two lists (author and classed) of 1000 volumes, suitable for a village library, giving short title, price, and publisher.

PATTEN, Frank C., librarian of the Helena (Mont.) Public Library, has an article on "Some features of the relations between public libraries and public schools" in the Montana *Educator* for April, in which he describes methods in vogue in Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and Helena.

Public Libraries, a monthly devoted to the interests of "the small and new public libraries," makes its appearance for May, 1896 (v. 1, no. 1). It is edited by Miss M. E. Ahern, formerly state librarian of Indiana, and is published by the Library Bureau, at 215 Madison street, Chicago. The first number, of 36 p., contains the first draft of six chapters of the "A. L. A. Library primer," by J. C. Dana, to be issued by the Publishing Section of the A. L. A., notes as to the A. L. A. conference in Cleveland in September of this year, a record of recent library meetings, an article on "The relation of the Library Bureau to the libraries," by G. B. Meloney, and personal and general library items. There will be 10 numbers of the new monthly during the year.

LOCAL.

Akron (O.) P. L. The joint committee on library, appointed by the city council and library board, has urged the council to submit to popular vote a proposition to issue \$80,000 in bonds for the erection of a new library building.

Baltimore. Enoch Pratt F. L. The trustees have purchased ground on St. Paul st., near Huntingdon ave. (25th st.), for the building of a sixth branch library. This is the first branch to be built outside of the old city limits—the site is six blocks beyond the boundary of 1888, and two blocks beyond the Woman's College. It is hoped to have the library open to the public before the close of the year. The general style of the building will be like that of the other branches, but provision may be made for a larger reading-room.

Boston Athenaeum. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 3675; total 179,063; spent for books, binding, etc., \$10,262.71. Issued 58,980; card-holders and users 797.

A résumé of the more valuable accessions of the year is given. Considerable progress has been made in the preparation of the new shelf-list, though it will be about two years before the work is completed. "In order not to cumber our shelves, and spend unnecessary labor on current publications of little permanent value, but of a certain passing interest, we enter such books, when bought, on a temporary list, giving them running numbers by which they can be charged, but we do not put them on the catalog or the shelf-list. This method has been followed since April, and 43 books have been entered on this list. The intention is to bring all of these books before the committee again when a year has passed or the interest in them has ceased, and then to decide whether they will be incorporated with the library or rejected."

Braddock, Pa. Carnegie L. The Allegheny county authorities have filed a stated case against Andrew Carnegie to test their right to levy a tax on the Carnegie libraries in that county. The Braddock library property has been assessed for \$80,400 and exemption from borough and school taxes denied. The full statement, giving the assessment value of the property, description of the library, its income and purpose, is submitted to the Court of Common Pleas for decision.

BROOKLINE (Mass.) P. L. Information for readers; compiled by the librarian. Brookline, 1896. 36 p. T.

This little handbook (as it is entitled on the cover) is modelled somewhat on the lines of the Boston P. L. Handbook, and is a capital piece of library enterprise. It is a compact and attractive little library guide-book, useful not only to strangers and visitors, but to the library's constituency as well. The frontispiece is a good view of the library building, and there are several excellent cuts of the interior scattered through the text. It contains a short historical sketch of the library, lists of the trustees and of the members of the staff, information as to library hours, rules, privileges, information obtainable, children's room, and regulations as to school use, a record of the special lists issued, and notes of the local history department. There are also lists of "some interesting works in the library," of

periodicals subscribed to for library and home use, of 200 good novels, arranged by titles, and 100 good books, not fiction, for boys and girls. Appended is the full text of the library regulations. By using the material that had previously appeared in the monthly bulletin of the library, and which was held in type for the purpose, it was found practicable to issue this handbook at a low cost, so that its practical usefulness should more than make up for the expense entailed.

Brooklyn, N. Y. The bill authorizing the city of Brooklyn to appropriate \$100,000 for a public library, when a like amount shall be raised by the citizens or other persons, passed the legislature on April 23. The text of the bill is as follows:

"1. The board of estimate of the city of Brooklyn is hereby authorized, in their discretion, to appropriate \$100,000 toward the founding of a free public library in the city of Brooklyn, when a like amount shall have been subscribed and actually paid to the city treasurer, who shall retain it for the purposes of said library, paying out moneys only on orders signed by the mayor.

"This money shall be expended under direction of a commission consisting of the mayor, president of the board of aldermen, the president of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and six persons to be appointed by the mayor."

It has, of course, no practical effect until \$100,000 is also raised by public subscription or gift.

Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L. The library reports an increasing number of philanthropic clubs among its borrowers. There are at present eight of these clubs, drawing each from 20 to 200 books for the use of members, the books being kept from two weeks to a month. Collection and delivery of books is made by the club, and selection, though usually made by the library, may also be made by the club. One of the public schools has recently become a borrower on somewhat similar lines. A teacher, guaranteed by the principal, makes application for books for her pupils and sends the necessary messenger, either with or without a list of books desired. In the latter case, the number of books and average age of the pupils are given, to aid in making the selection. The library has now five home library circles, which are visited weekly by different members of the force.

The dedication of the new library building is set for May 28.

Brooklyn, N. Y. Union for Christian Work L. (Rpt.—year ending Dec., '95.) Added 3560; total 33,010. Issued, home use 167,771 (fict. 132,853); ref. use 2734. New registration 2158; total registration 18,514; active card-holders, about 5000. Receipts \$7297.07; expenses \$7088.45.

"Until November last our library was only open one evening of each week, Saturday. But to accommodate those whose occupation prevented them from coming on that evening, we have since that time opened the library also on Monday evening of each week. The result has been very successful."

Buffalo (N. Y.) L. (59th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, '95.) Added 3978; total 77,046. Is-

sued, home use 128,222 (fict. 60.55%, juv. fict. 10.52%); lib. use 39,582. Total membership 2804. Receipts \$18,159.66; expenses \$17,140.27.

The circulation shows an increase of nearly 10,000 v. over the previous year. The recorded use of books shows an even greater advance. "In fact, the use of the library for purposes of reference and study is growing far beyond all that could have been expected a few years ago, and it is not improbable that the dimensions of our reading-rooms, which seemed ample when the building was planned, will be found inadequate at some day not distant."

Mr. Larned continues: "I am pleased to say that every year brings the library into larger and closer relations with the young people of the city; and this is brought about, to a great extent, by the distribution of readers' tickets among the pupils of the public schools. The number of tickets so distributed has recently been raised to 1000, and generally speaking there is excellent use made of them. More and more of the teachers in the schools are interesting themselves in the guidance of the reading of their pupils, and the effect is unquestionably stimulating in several ways. So long as Buffalo has no free public library from which books can be drawn for home reading—or none beyond the meagre school libraries which the state has given to it, and on which it expends nothing from its own funds—these school tickets are a most important contribution to the educational system of the city. They go a little way toward redeeming us from the discredit in which we stand, as being very nearly the only city in America which does not support a collection of books for free public use."

The library committee say: "It is evident that there is scope in Buffalo for a library permitting the free withdrawal of books. It is very questionable whether it would be wise for the Buffalo library to surrender its management to municipal control, but it may be well that some arrangement might be made by which the institution should have a semi-public character, and furnish the city with the practical benefits of a free public library for withdrawal of books under restrictions as to class of books to be so drawn, and granting additional privileges to paying members."

Camden, N. J. Public agitation for a free library was started some weeks since, with the result that \$750 has been raised by subscription, in addition to the town appropriation of \$1500 authorized at the annual meeting in March.

Detroit (Mich.) P. L. (31st rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 12,033; total 139,360; lost and paid for 49. Issued, home use 348,409 (fict. 74.14%); lib. use 347,224. New registration 5470; card-holders 27,596. Books bound 5667, at a cost of \$3241.70. An average of 57 cents per v. Receipts \$62,373.64; expenses (six months only) \$41,417.58.

"During the first two months of the year the prevalence of small-pox in the city interfered perceptibly with the use of the library. Several cases in the immediate vicinity of the library

building and a case in the home of one of the library assistants served to direct public attention to the institution. There was a popular belief that the contagion might be spread by means of library-books and this kept many people from using them. Every possible precaution was taken to guard against infected books. The board of health sent us daily reports of all cases. These cases were looked up, and if it was found that there was a library card in an infected house a message was at once sent to the quarantine officer in charge of the premises to destroy all library cards and books found therein. Altogether eight library-books were thus destroyed or taken to the contagious disease hospital for the use of the patients there. All the books were fiction. The loss to the library in the matter of dollars and cents was trifling. But the loss in patronage is seen by contrasting the circulation of the early months of the year with that of the corresponding months of the preceding year."

Important alterations in the library building have been in progress during the year, and "have driven away from the reading-rooms many people who seriously feel the loss of the privileges which the library affords." The changes will give place for a children's room, 40x30, on the ground floor, where children's books and periodicals will be made freely accessible; a new two-story steel stack will also be installed, and much-needed room will be added to the administrative offices of the library, to the reading-room, and the reference-room.

"Early in the spring the Detroit Medical and Library Association offered to give to the library without condition its entire collection of books and periodicals, and to continue at its own expense the subscription to some of the leading medical periodicals of this and other countries. The gift was accepted and the unbound magazines were collected and sent to the bindery. The whole number of volumes, including those unbound, thus received was 2728, of which 1068 were duplicates of books already in the library; these duplicates were for the most part turned over to the library of the Detroit Medical College. The present plan is to collect all the books on medicine and cognate subjects in convenient alcoves of the new reference-room and devote a suitable portion of the floor-space of that department to a medical reading-room. Current medical periodicals will be placed on the tables here and made available, as they could not be in the general public reading-rooms. Something might also be done toward preparing an analytical index of the medical literature thus collected.

The circulation of library-books through the public schools proved so popular that the number of books for this special purpose has been greatly increased and their use extended to children in the fourth-grade classes. "There are now 4700 library-books in the school-circulating libraries. No records of their use have hitherto been kept. But at the opening of the school year in September last a system was put in operation by which statistics of their use will

be preserved. There are in the central high school 2500 library-books which are retained at the school for the exclusive use of the pupils."

A case testing the library rules regarding the sureties and fines for overdue books was settled in one of the city courts on Feb. 24, in favor of the library. The defendant was Isaac Crawford, surety for Lilly Boucher, a minor, who failed to return a book to the library. The decision was that Crawford should pay \$4.50 damages and \$3 costs for the book, which originally cost \$1.

Helena (Mont.) City L. (2d rpt.) As it has been decided by the trustees that hereafter the library year shall correspond with the calendar year, this report covers the period of nine months only, from April to December, 1895. Added 1375; total 16,479. Issued, home use 48,937 (fict. 77%); new registration 521; borrowers' cards in use 4873.

"The library has still to face the condition of a yearly increasing work and opportunity and a yearly decreasing revenue. The money for its support, which is derived from an annual tax of one-half mill on the dollar of all taxable property in the city, grows less on account of the reduction of the assessed valuation. This revenue has now become so inadequate that, with this resource only, I am unable to see how even the present degree of library efficiency can longer be maintained. The year now closing up has been one of struggle to keep up the routine work of the library."

During the year copies of the leading magazines were put in circulation and have been constantly used. There has been an increase of over 11% in the issue for home use and of fully 20% in reference and news room use. The library urgently needs more room, more books—juveniles and reference especially—a new catalog, and closer co-operation with the schools. "The place where improvement is being made is evidently among the young people. We feel that our efforts for them are producing good results. The field for these efforts is unlimited. There is opportunity to do more and more for the young just as fast as the necessary means can be provided. More books and more copies are needed. And there is especial need to provide for more personal help and guidance."

Hoboken (N. J.) P. L. The corner-stone of the new library building was laid on April 20 with simple ceremonies in the presence of the city officials, the library board, and a few invited guests. The copper box was placed beneath the stone by Mrs. Martha B. Stevens, representing the Stevens family, whose gift of \$26,000 was the nucleus of the building fund. The plans for the building have been previously noted in these columns. (L. J. 20: 323.)

Homestead, Pa. Active work was begun on April 20 on the new library and club-house to be presented to the town by Andrew Carnegie.

The library is not expected to be completed in less than a year and a half, and its estimated cost is \$500,000. The site chosen is

just outside the town limits on the old city farm property. The plans, which were recently completed, call for a stone building, two stories high, with several towers and decorations; it will contain the library and club-house, having billiard and pool rooms, swimming-pool, gymnasium, etc.

Iowa libraries. Advance sheets of the report on Iowa libraries for 1895, as it will appear in the Iowa "Official register" for 1896, give information as to libraries in the state as follows, according to the "Iowa library column" of the Fort Dodge (Ia.) *Daily Capitol*: Only one free library has been established in the state during the year. 157 libraries show an increase over last year's report of 49,202 v., and the total number of volumes in libraries in the state is given as 595,752, classified as follows: 16 state institutions, with 95,730 v.; 31 college or university libraries, with 171,736 v.; 25 free public libraries, with 117,264 v.; 25 subscription libraries, with 84,692 v.; 13 academic libraries, with 21,680 v.; 31 school libraries, with 29,870 v., and six miscellaneous libraries, with 74,780 v.

A comparison of the free with the subscription libraries shows that 25 free libraries having 117,264 v. (two not reporting) have circulated 427,623 v., while 25 subscription libraries having 84,692 v. (15 making no report as to circulation) have circulated 62,918 v.

Ithaca, N. Y. Cornell Univ. L. The library has secured the fine collection of books on South America gathered mainly during his eight years' residence in Brazil by a former Cornell student, Herbert H. Smith, known in the scientific world as an explorer and an entomological collector, and the author of one of the leading modern works on the natural and sociological features of Brazil. The collection numbers about 700 volumes and 800 pamphlets, including many sets of periodicals and valuable pamphlets published in South America.

Johns Hopkins Univ., Baltimore. The library of the late Prof. Augustus Dillman, of the University of Berlin, was formally presented to the Johns Hopkins University on April 25 by Mr. G. W. Gail, of Baltimore. The library was purchased last summer by Prof. Haupt, of the university, who had been commissioned by Mr. Gail. (See L. J. 20:357.) It consists of 5000 v. especially devoted to Biblical criticism and Oriental languages.

Mr. Leopold Strouse, of Baltimore, has presented \$600 to the department of Oriental languages for the purchase of books, which will form the beginning of a library of rabbinical literature. "It is understood that this sum is the first of a series of similar annual gifts from the same donor."

Malden (Mass.) P. L. (18th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 2289; total 26,775. Issued, home use 98,658 (fict. 75.64%); lib. use 7592. New registration 1240; cards in use 7464. Receipts \$10,944.17; expenses \$9906.69.

"The Sunday opening of the reading-room and art gallery has continued during the year with varying results; but it cannot be considered to have gained in popularity during that time. Though not entirely a failure, it is still far from being a gratifying success."

The two-book system has been successfully introduced.

Massachusetts State L., Boston. Added 4175; pm. 3202; spent for books \$5905.55.

p. 12 — 237 are devoted to the 16th annual supplement to the general catalog, including additions for the year ending Sept. 30, 1885.

Medford (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '96.) Added 968; total 17,184. Issued 52,985. Receipts \$5215.27; expenses \$5214.63.

"We have furnished to six of the schools a carefully selected collection of books, which are retained for the use of such scholars as may desire them for home reading. They are given into the hands of one of the pupils who thus acts as librarian, keeping a record of the number of times the books go out, together with the names of the borrowers. Each month the books are returned to the library and a new set sent in their place. Under this system we find there is a greater call for books of the better class among the young people; often one child recommends to another a book he has taken from the schools; this one applies for it after it has been returned to the library; thus, unconsciously, the missionary work is carried on."

Miss Sargent makes an earnest showing of the need for "more rooms, better ventilation, and better sanitary conditions," and describes with emphasis the many shifts and discomforts which the present cramped and inadequate quarters entail.

Menosha (Wis.) L. A. A public subscription has been started for a new library building; over \$1000 is already subscribed.

Milford, Ct. Taylor L. The first report of the library, submitted to the Connecticut Public Library Committee, gives a short account of its history since 1893, when it was incorporated with 21 incorporators. The library originated in an offer from Henry A. Taylor to erect a library building to cost \$25,000, provided the town would furnish a site and an annual appropriation of \$1000 for 50 years. The offer was at once accepted, \$4000 was voted for the purchase of ground, the building was completed in January, 1895, and dedicated on February 2, 1895. When completed the library had no books, nor was there a book fund; the first volumes received were about 400 from the Milford Lyceum, \$200 worth were given by the state, and other volumes were given by friends until the present total of 7000 v. was reached. The library is open each week day, from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m.; Sunday opening was tried, but discontinued, as it did not seem needed. The reading-room is supplied with about 30 periodicals and has a daily average of about 75 visitors. There are now about 1000 card-holders

out of a population of 4000, and the circulation varies from 2000 to 3000 monthly. An author catalog is now going through the press, which will be sold at 25 c. a copy.

Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L. On April 15 Carl Marr's painting "The flagellants" was presented to the city by Mrs. Emil Schandain. It will be hung in the art-room of the new library building.

Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L. (6th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 11,197; total 83,531. Issued, home use 450,588 (fict. 49.52 %; juv. 16.61 %), of which nearly 50 % were issued through the eight delivery stations, and nearly 7000 circulated through the public schools; no record of lib. use is kept. New registration 10,500; total registration 26,950. Receipts, \$61,951.47; expenses \$48,650.30.

"As to the unaccountable injury to and loss of books, we still suffer, though certainly to no greater extent than heretofore. From May to November the *Kindergarten Magazine* was regularly stolen. For a number of weeks the pages containing the missionary intelligence were regularly torn out of the *Congregationalist*, making it necessary to take that paper from the rack, and issue it only upon application. *Harper's Bazar* is sometimes stolen. Nothing of great value, however, has been stolen or mutilated."

Dr. Hosmer devotes the greater part of his report to a review of the system of free access which has been in operation in the library for six years. He describes the methods used in Minneapolis, and summarizes the chief advantages and disadvantages of the system, but finds the former predominant. "In summing up," he concludes, "it may be said that in the library world a tendency exists towards allowing to readers a freer access to the books than was once the fashion; that while in some cases this increased freedom has involved heavy damage and loss, in a larger number of cases damage and loss have been slight, largely outweighed by the advantages that attend the practice; that the majority of librarians favor increased freedom, differing widely, however, as to the amount of restriction expedient. Experience seems to show clearly that free access is the proper policy for us."

At a meeting of the board of trustees on March 6, 1896, it was decided to make a general reduction of the library salary list. The list as reduced was put at once in effect; it makes the salary of the librarian \$2500 instead of \$3000, and effects a reduction of from \$5 to \$10 monthly in the salaries of most of the other members of the staff. The total saving effected by the measure is \$2300.

A fine collection of incunabula and early examples of printing has been deposited in the library by W. C. Baker, of Grand Rapids, Mich. It is to be known as the Baker incunabula collection and has been deposited with the library for a term of 10 years, under a signed agreement; it is to be kept in a locked case and may be consulted only under the personal supervision of the librarian or some member of the staff.

Nashville, Tenn. Howard L. Early in April the incorporators of the Howard Library announced that unless sufficient money was promptly raised for its maintenance the library would be obliged to close; the date for closing was later extended to May 1, to permit of public action being taken. Public subscription lists were promptly started and by April 30 several hundred dollars had been raised.

New Bedford (Mass.) P. L. At a trustees' meeting, held April 1, reports were submitted as to the need of alteration and enlargement of the library building, if not of a new building. It is desired to give the public access to the stacks, and to do this general rearrangement will be necessary. Various methods were suggested and discussed, and finally a committee on conference was appointed to further consider the matter. The cataloging of the library is being pushed forward, and L. Nelson Nichols, formerly of Cornell University Library, has been engaged to assist in the work.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L., April, 1896. Concord, 1896. 18 p. T.

"This little book is issued by the trustees in the desire that citizens may be better informed of the scope of the state library, and that the policy of the trustees with reference to its development and use may be generally known and understood." The library is not wholly a law library; out of its 50,000 v. only about 15,000 are law-books, and both the law collection and the miscellaneous collection are freely open for reference use by the public. This pamphlet covers separately the law library, the miscellaneous library, rules and regulations, and conveniences; full directions are given for finding books on the shelves, free access being allowed in both departments, and a review of the scope of the two departments is included.

"About April 1, 1896, work will be begun on a comprehensive subject, author, and title card-catalog of the miscellaneous library." This collection the trustees propose to systematically extend and strengthen, making it especially full on special topics of importance, as religion, medicine, education, agriculture, etc., while eschewing "popular" literature which may be freely had in public libraries.

No books are loaned from the law library save in special cases, under special agreement; but "on and after July 1, 1896, any book in the miscellaneous library will be sent upon request to any public library in the state for a period not exceeding one week, express charges both ways to be paid by the borrower." The public library in turn may loan out the book to any reputable citizen under its own rules and regulations, the borrowing library being responsible for the book loaned, and it in turn looking to the private borrower for redress in case of injury or loss. "Under this plan a person desiring to consult a book in this library has only to go to the library in his town and make application therefor, paying the cost of getting the book and returning it."

New Haven (Ct.) F. P. L. (Rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, 1895.) Added 2765; total 29,906; circulation 232,014 (fiction, adult and juv. 70.1%); borrowers 11,600. Expenses \$16,106; income \$16,054.

During the year a separate reference-room was opened and the periodical reading-room was made larger. A separate juvenile department was also opened. All the shelves of the library were thrown open to the public about July 1. The circulation increased 29% the first month, but the rate of increase decreased in later months.

New London (Ct.) P. L. (5th rpt.) Added 1429; total 15,546; lost 4. Issued, home use 70,735; ref. use 2646. New registration 462; total registration 4312.

New Orleans (La.) F. P. L. On April 7 an ordinance was introduced into the city council providing for the consolidation of the Fisk Free Library, now in the Tulane building, on Dryades street, with the library in the city hall, the same to be known as the Free Public Library of the City of New Orleans, and to be housed in the renovated library building at Lafayette and Camp streets, formerly the home of the old Criminal Court. The library is to be conducted by a board of seven directors, appointed by the mayor, who, on the expiration of their terms of active service, shall become life members. The mayor is ex-officio chairman of the board, and its rulings are subject to his approval. The directors were appointed by the mayor on April 21, as follows: Frank T. Howard, Sidney March, Albert Baldwin, Jr., P. A. Lelong, Frederick Ernst, E. B. Kruttschnitt, and G. W. Flynn, the latter holding the position of secretary.

New York. SHALL NEW YORK HAVE A GREAT MEDICAL LIBRARY? (Editorial in *Medical Record*, Ap. 25.) 2 col.

The New York Academy of Medicine has appealed to the public for an endowment fund of \$100,000 for its library. The library now contains 45,000 volumes; and "it should be impossible for any person to seek in vain for an original article on any medical or allied subject in the Academy's library."

New York. *Aguilar F. L.* A Harlem branch of the library was opened on April 24 at 176 E. 110th street, and was visited by a number of teachers and principals of the schools in the neighborhood, who had been invited to examine the books and arrangements. The branch starts work with 2500 v. on the shelves.

New York F. C. L. A public meeting was held at Chickering Hall, New York, on April 11, for the purpose of arousing more general public interest in the support and welfare of the library. Mayor Strong presided, and on the platform were Andrew Carnegie, Jacob H. Schiff, ex-Judge H. E. Howland, W. Bourke Cockran, and others. The opening address, by ex-Judge Howland, described the history of the

library from its foundation in 1880, and compared the library situation in New York with that in other leading cities. What was particularly desired was to provide for the establishment of at least 10 more branches in certain districts. The libraries already in existence have more than proved their usefulness, and a considerable extension of the scope of the work is much needed. Among the other speakers who set forth the needs of the library and its claims on the city and the public were Andrew Carnegie, W. Bourke Cockran, and J. L. Cadwalader.

One of the immediate results of the meeting has been a general awakening of interest in the subject. Most of the papers have set forth at length the opinions of representative citizens as to library provision for New York. The *Commercial Advertiser* of April 18 quoted at length the views of Judge H. E. Howland, one of the board of managers of the Free Circulating Library. He believed that the ideal library system for New York would consist of one large central library with at least 20 branches, including the six libraries of the Free Circulating system and the four of the Aguilar Society. If the city should grant a site for the great consolidated library, he thought it should make the operation of branches and the circulation of books a condition of the gift. Dr. Henry Van Dyke, W. T. Peoples, Prof. George Gunton, and Superintendent of Schools Jasper all expressed their belief in the necessity of many branches. The *New York Sun* strongly approves Judge Howland's proposition, but opposes the use of the reservoir site and the erection of a costly building.

New York. *Maimonides L.* (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 1383; total 44,893. Issued, home use 94,828; ref. use 35,537; per cent. of fiction, 49. Card-holders (under new registry) 1747.

A printed catalog is much needed.

New York P. L. — *Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations.* The bill authorizing the removal of the reservoir on Fifth avenue and 42d street and allowing the use of the site by the Public Library, passed the Assembly on April 16, and the Senate on April 29. The bill is aimed to give the city authorities the right to apportion the site of the reservoir to the uses of the trustees of the library. It is very short, and is not mandatory, but only permissive, simply allowing the use of the site by the library should the city decide to give it.

A valuable collection of books relating to American history and genealogy has been secured by the Lenox Library for the new consolidated library. It consists of about 3700 v. and was purchased from a private collector in Washington.

New York State L. According to the secretary's report of the work accomplished by the university in 1894 (Regents' bulletin, no. 34), the use of all departments of the library is steadily growing, that of the capitol library alone having increased 568%. Total additions were 19,159, excluding 2555 duplicates and 8175 v. added to the travelling libraries.

Mr. Dewey says: "The duplicate division, of which the plan has been so highly commended, is practically not in operation because our nearly 125,000 duplicates are mostly piled in inaccessible heaps and no work worthy of the name can be done till shelving is provided on the fifth floor. I recommend as the most important thing for the state library a strenuous effort to secure this needed shelving, so that this great collection may be protected from farther injury and may be distributed where the books will be of great utility to the taxpayers instead of being a positive nuisance, as they are in their present condition."

Newton (Mass.) F. L. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 2193; total 48,948. Issued, home use 164,341 (fict. 55.80%); no record of ref. use. Registration 5963. Receipts \$13,293.24; expenses \$13,288.06; West Newton branch, receipts \$1538.10; expenses \$1538.10.

"More than half the books have been distributed through the 10 agencies. The plan of allowing two cards to each person has proved a success."

Norristown (Pa.) L. Co. The 100th anniversary of the Norristown Library Company was celebrated on April 21. The exercises were held in the court-house, and were presided over by Rev. A. J. Weddell, pastor emeritus of the Lutheran Church of the Trinity. Addresses were made by Judge H. K. Weand, Hon. I. P. Wanger, Rev. Isaac Gibson, and a sketch of the library was read by the secretary of the association, William McDermott. The library company was organized with 12 incorporators, on April 30, 1796, but did not come into official existence until March 31, 1836. In 1859 an entire new constitution and by-laws were adopted; in this year the library contained 3121 v. In 1865 an act was passed exempting the library from taxes, save those due the state. The present building, which was erected by subscription in 1859, cost about \$2000; the property was valued at \$10,000 in 1878, and is now worth about \$15,000. The library now contains about 8000 v. Shares of stock in the association are \$5, and membership dues \$2 annually. It is hoped that a way will be found to open the library freely to the public in the near future.

Ohio State L. Commission. On April 22 the legislature passed the bill providing for a state library commission, with the house amendments, in which the senate concurred. This bill, which was introduced by Senator Garfield, authorizes the governor to appoint three library commissioners, to serve for two, four, and six years. They are to serve without compensation, but are given \$1000 for travelling expenses and clerk hire. They, with the approval of the governor, shall appoint the state librarian, who is required to give a \$10,000 bond; they shall have charge of the distribution and sale of public documents, including the reports of the supreme court, and may appoint a sales agent, and they are authorized to extend the use of the state library and furnish

advice and help to all public libraries in the state.

The bill encountered strong opposition, having centre in various political motives, but was finally passed by both houses. The avowed purpose of it is to take the state library out of politics and to extend its usefulness. Among librarians it is hoped that there will now be a strong central body for the dissemination of the principles of library science and organization throughout the state, and that judicious encouragement will be given for the founding and extension of public libraries, and also that eventually there will be a complete system of travelling libraries for Ohio.

Though introduced by Senator Garfield, the author of the bill is generally understood to be Rutherford P. Hayes, of Fremont, Ohio. It was also strongly seconded on the outside by the efforts of Mr. W. H. Brett and Mr. Orr, of Cleveland, and by Mr. Frank Conover, of the Dayton Library board, who is chairman of the committee on legislation of the Ohio Library Association.

On April 24 Governor Bushnell appointed the members of the commission, as follows: Rutherford P. Hayes, of Columbus, six years; J. F. McGrew, four years; and C. A. Reynolds, of Zanesville, two years. On April 30 the board met and organized, electing C. A. Reynolds president and R. P. Hayes temporary secretary. The law provides that the state librarian shall be permanent secretary, and this post will therefore be filled by Prof. Galbreath, who has been appointed to that office.

Oshkosh (Wis.) P. L. The library was opened to the public on April 1, and on the first day 45 books were issued and 53 persons applied for borrowers' cards. Work begins with 6000 v. There is a bequest of \$50,000 awaiting it as soon as the city raises an equal amount.

Passaic (N. J.) P. L. By introducing a catalog of the library in every school in the city, the circulation has been largely increased and many children have been brought to use the library for reference.

Pekin (Ill.) L. A. The association has offered to transfer its library to the city, provided it be made a free library and given municipal support.

Peoria (Ill.) P. L. The new library building is rapidly nearing completion and will, it is thought, be ready for dedication on July 4. The contract for the interior decorations has been closed, and the finishing work is now in progress.

Philadelphia L. Co. On April 20 the library received from Prof. A. G. Emerick, of Tioga, the gift of his collection of music and musical literature, which includes a large number of musical scores, oratorios, cantatas, operas, etc., and several hundred volumes of works about music. This gift, supplemented by the large collections on the subject given to the library by Mrs. Dr. Rush and Miss Anne H. Brewster,

will make the Philadelphia Library especially useful to all lovers or students of music and musical literature.

Philadelphia City Institute F. L. Added 1495; total 19,379. Issued 57,317; no. visitors 82,694. Receipts \$6288.09; expenses \$5169.48.

"Owing to the successful organization of free libraries by the city authorities in different parts of the city in the last few years, and more particularly since the same have come under the control of 'The Philadelphia Free Library,' a number of our readers have been drawn from us to the libraries nearer their homes, and in consequence our average daily attendance and number of books loaned has fallen off; but our loss in the respects named is the gain of those for whom our institute was founded, and we therefore rejoice in the organizing of every new library."

Philadelphia Mercantile L. (73d rpt. — year ending Dec. 30, '95.) Added 2083; total 176,981. Issued, home use 77,617; visits 285,408. Membership not given. Receipts \$27,243.19; expenses \$27,172.47.

In January, 1895, the membership fee was reduced to \$2, in the hope of increasing the use of the library — a hope that does not seem to have been greatly justified. During the year the library was partially closed for six weeks, pending alterations and repairs which have much improved the building. Early in 1895 the directors offered to make the library free and place it partially under city authority, maintaining, however, controlling power, in return for its maintenance by the city. An ordinance covering this proposal was submitted to the city councils, but owing to the restrictions imposed it failed to become a law.

Portland (Ore.) L. A. (2d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 1752; total 22,971; issued 24,935 (fict. 70.9 %). Receipts, general fund \$3770.75; expenses \$5430.69, leaving a deficit of \$1659.94; book fund receipts \$1994.22; expenses \$2057.32, leaving a deficit of \$63.10.

The president of the association says: "It will be evident that what is needed to put the association on a sound basis financially is a contribution sufficient to represent the depreciation in the real estate from the inventoried value, and retire the bills payable, relieving the association from the payment of interest. If this is not now practicable, then provision must be made for the present deficiency in the running expense and interest, now amounting to nearly \$9000; and provision must also be made for the interest charge for the coming year, deferring any attempt to make up the principal until more auspicious times. An effort was made early in 1895 to provide for the deficiency then existing, and the deficiency during the year past. An attempt was made to provide \$10,000, but it was not successful, only a small portion having been subscribed. I am not altogether without hope that the subscriptions may still be increased to a considerable amount. If, however, this is not done, the association will be more and more

embarrassed as time goes on and interest accumulates." He states that retrenchment of expenses is necessary.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. The communication from Mr. Foster, printed elsewhere, disposes of the criticisms on the issue of fiction from his library, made by Mr. S. S. Rider in his periodical *Book Notes*, and noted in the April JOURNAL. In the Providence Library *Monthly Bulletin* for March the subject is given detailed attention, especially in the details of the library's classification. The battle is renewed by Mr. Rider in *Book Notes* for May 2, in which he attempts to prove that the circulation statistics of the library are "manipulated" with intent to deceive, and that the classification now in use is not the one originally adopted. To do this he prints in "deadly parallel" columns the classification given in the first library report and, presumably, that in the last report, and proves them to be materially different, the first showing numerical classes from 0 to 9, the second classes from 1 to 11. The reader seeing "9" opposite "Art" in the first column will naturally glance at the other column where "9" is opposite "Natural science," and will decide at once that the classification has been materially changed. Unfortunately for this proof, however, the second column is not a list of classes in the order of class numbers at all. It is simply an enumeration, from p. 26 of the 17th report, of the rank of circulation of the various classes of books, the highest ("1. Fiction, adult and juvenile") at the top and the lowest at the bottom. The "9" opposite "Natural science" means only that it is ninth in order of circulation, but its class-number, 6, is still unchanged. The error would be amusing were it not unfortunate that it is made in support of unfounded and injurious charges.

Raleigh, N. C. A public subscription has been started toward the organization of a public library, and over \$2500 has been raised for the purpose.

Randolph, Mass. *Turner F. L.* Added 353; total 12,749. Issued, home use 18,378; lib. use 3700; issued on teachers' cards 286. Receipts \$1597; expenses \$1499.88.

Saginaw (Mich.) P. L. On April 15 an incendiary fire broke out in the Central School Building, in which the Public Library occupied the east wing of the first floor. The building was almost entirely destroyed. Of the 9000 v. in the library, which were valued at about \$5000, all were badly damaged by fire and water and most will be a total loss. A few can probably be rebound and used.

St. Augustine (Fla.) F. P. L. The library has removed from its old quarters in the government building to its new building on Hospital street, given for the purpose by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Wilson. The library-rooms are on the second and third floors, the first being devoted to the museum and assembly-room of the local Scientific and Literary Association. The library de-

partment consists of a delivery-room, 20 x 50, on the second floor, the south end of which is fitted up as a reading-room; the third floor is given up to the storage of surplus papers, magazines, etc.

St. Johns, Mich. Ladies' L. A. Added 112; total 2615. Issued 3574. New members 14; total membership 124. Receipts \$276.59; expenses \$225.44.

St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L. At the April election a majority vote was polled in favor of the proposition to increase the library appropriation from three-tenths mill to one mill, the limit allowed by state law. This will give the library an annual income of \$23,500.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. In a civil service examination held recently, in which 80 persons from all parts of the United States participated, only five succeeded in passing. Three of these were assistant catalogers in the St. Louis Public Library. At the same time an examination for the position of catalog clerk in the State Department was tried successfully by a fourth assistant in the library. The four St. Louis young women who passed were Miss Irene Gibson, Miss Florence P. Chase, Miss Nellie McCreary, and Miss Alice Fichtenkam. Misses Chase and Gibson made the highest grades, and they have been tendered and have accepted positions in the Public Documents department at Washington. The other two young women's names have been placed on the accepted civil service lists and they will be given positions in the department when the first vacancies occur.

St. Paul (Minn.) P. L. (14th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 3164; total 40,773. Issued, home use 186,336 (fict. 42.12%, juv. 29.37%); lib. use 54,829. New registration 4891; total registration 10,471. Receipts \$17,944.42; expenses \$15,019.53.

The directors devote the greater part of their report to an analysis of the circulation of fiction.

A St. Paul Library Association was formed in April for the purpose of promoting the interests of the library and, if possible, obtaining a new building. Several meetings have been held and a considerable membership secured.

St. Peter, Minn. On April 16 at a meeting of the city council the library established by the Woman's Literary Club and tendered to the city was formally accepted and a library board of nine members was appointed.

San Francisco (Cal.) F. P. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '95.) Added 4617; total 78,517. Circulation 421,455, of which 40,414 were for ref. use (fict. 32.37%). No. card-holders 16,411. Receipts \$42,091.86; expenses \$39,431.14.

Of the total circulation of 421,455, 99,022 were delivered through the four branch libraries. "The cataloging of current accessions has kept pace with their receipt, and such time as could be spared has been devoted to the insertion of titles from the old printed

catalogs in the Rudolph indexers. When this work is completed, the library will be cataloged in a continuous alphabet possessing the flexibility of the card system and with many advantages over that system. The number of persons, however, enabled to use the catalog simultaneously is limited to the number of machines; hence, with borrowers constantly increasing in number, it will not do to rely solely upon the indexers as the means for exhibiting the library's contents. Moreover, by the time the entries from the old catalogs are inserted, the limit of the capacity of the indexers will nearly have been reached."

San Francisco, Cal. Mechanics' Institute L. (41st rpt.—year ending Feb. 29, '96.) Added 3475; total 70,818. Issued, home use 185,875 (fict. and juv. 145,456); no record of lib. use is kept. New membership, net gain, 244; total membership 4709. Receipts \$29,056.71; expenses \$23,945.40.

The president says: "The institute has always allowed its members to have free access to its books, and while there are losses due to theft, carelessness, and mutilation, there are gains from this free access, which has always been valued and esteemed by members, and by its freedom creates a membership that would not exist. That this privilege involves some loss is true, and during the five years from 1891 to 1895, inclusive, that loss amounted to 2254 volumes, or say 37 volumes per month. It is nevertheless the opinion that it would be unprofitable to make any change in the method we have so long pursued. This loss of books, however, at an average of 75 cents per volume, amounts to \$1690.58."

During the year the reading-room was removed from the third floor to the basement.

Somerville (Mass.) P. L. (23d rpt.) Added 4010; total 31,739. Issued, home use 68,231. Receipts \$9426.83; expenses \$9306.49.

The year has been a notable one in the history of the library, as it has been marked by the alteration of the book-room, the erection of a fine new book-stack, the reclassification of the library, and the issue of a complete finding-list. All these innovations are fully described by Librarian Hayes, who gives also a historical sketch of the library. The library was closed for four months during alterations.

"The East Somerville agency was discontinued April 15, and the agency at West Somerville June 1; neither of them have been reopened, but instead, the eight large grammar schools will be made distributing centres."

Southbridge (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending March 1, '96.) Added 419; total 15,921. Issued, home use 19,752 (fict. 42.54%, juv. 19.98%). New registration 214; total registration 3169.

During the year the age limit was withdrawn, and books are now issued to any child able to write his name. The library is being reclassified. A list of the year's accessions is appended.

Sparrow's Point (Md.) F. L. This library, open three evenings a week, has been circulat-

ing from 35 to 60 volumes each evening the first two months of its existence. Much interest is manifested in the movement. A book reception will be held in May to increase interest and the number of books. Several hundred books have also been donated by the Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Taunton (Mass.) P. L. (30th rpt.) Added 1898; total 40,540. Issued, home use 73,009 (fict. 42,571); lost and paid for 5. New registration 413; total registration ("nominal") 13,277. Receipts and expenses \$6852.19.

University of Virginia. Prof. Thomas R. Price announces that he has secured the Hertz library of Greek and Latin philology as the New York gift to the University of Virginia. The collection numbers over 12,000 v., and will go into the new library building, the restored rotunda.

West Haven, Ct. A public meeting was held on April 24 for the purpose of starting a general subscription towards establishing a free public library. The sum of \$1000 is desired for the purpose, and it is thought that this will be obtained.

West Springfield (Mass.) P. L. The "two-book" system was put in operation late in April. Its adoption is explained in the following notice, issued by the trustees: "At the annual meeting of the town the income of the library was reduced \$225, which means 200 less new books for the coming year. For this reason the trustees have adopted the method of one of the best libraries of this vicinity for the drawing of new fiction."

Westport, Mo. On April 16 the school district of Westport—which is a suburb of Kansas City—received from the county court the sum of \$7314. The sum, which had been long in litigation, is the surplus of a special tax levied a number of years ago to pay for the construction of a horse-car line to Kansas City. The money is to be used for the establishment of a library in Westport. It is proposed to spend about \$5000 on a building and devote the remainder to its fitting and administration.

FOREIGN.

Battersea (Eng.) P. L. (9th rpt. — 10 months only.) Added 1400; total 35,860. Issued 227,762 (ref. use 17,996). Total registration 7483. Receipts £4391.14.7; expenses £4057.1.8.

With the close of the period covered by this report (June 1, 1895–March 25, 1896) the control of the library is transferred from the board of commissioners to the charge of the vestry of the parish of St. Mary. A short history of the library is given.

Birmingham (Eng.) L. (Rpt.) Added 1241; total not given. Receipts £2200.19.3; expenses £2222.9.3. There are 812 "proprietors."

"It was generally anticipated that electric light would prove to be more costly than gas, and in the librarian's report issued last year the increase was estimated at £20. The actual

cost of the light for the past year, including repairs and the renewal of lamps, has been £75.9.9, as against £77.3.9 for gas and fittings for 1893, the last complete year during which gas was continuously used."

Brussels, Office International de Bibliographie. The royal decree, issued by Leopold II., King of the Belgians, in September, 1895, formally authorizing and creating the Office International de Bibliographie, is given in the *Centralblatt* for April. The office was established in Brussels in 1894, and its first conference was noted in the *JOURNAL* for October, 1895.

Montreal, Can. McGill Univ. L. The university has published a handsome pamphlet, devoted to the library, and containing a memorial of its founder, Peter Redpath. It is illustrated with fine views of the interior and exterior of the building, and with portraits of Mr. Redpath, members of the university faculty, and others prominent in the establishment of the library. In November, 1891, Mr. Redpath offered to erect the building on a selected site given to the university by J. H. R. Molson, and costing about \$50,000. Work was soon begun and rapidly carried forward, and on October 31, 1893, the library building was dedicated, in the presence of a large audience, the Governor-General of Canada presiding. The building is described at some length by the architect. The fire-proof stack-room, of four stories, is fitted with an elevator for books, and on each floor a wide bay-window affords a pleasant study alcove. The basement, which is entirely above ground, contains five seminar or study rooms, a book-receiving room, and an unpacking-room, which connects by stair and elevator with the cataloging-room directly above; the rest of the basement is devoted to lavatories, caretaker's rooms, heating apparatus, etc. On the main floor is the great reading-room, 110 x 43, and 44 feet high, beautifully fitted with wide fireplace, recessed windows, and ornamental details. At one end is a gallery for the display of rare books or mss.; below this are the librarian's room and cataloging-room, separated by glass partitions from the reading-room. The rest of the floor is given up to a periodical-room and cloak-rooms. There are two beautiful stained-glass windows, and the general plan of decoration is rich and harmonious. The building is lighted by electricity and heated by hot water on the direct-radiation system. The library contains about 55,000 v., of which 20,000 are distributed as department libraries in the several university buildings. Besides giving the library building, Mr. Redpath gave a yearly sum of \$5000 toward the expenses of administration, etc.

PRACTICAL NOTES.

A NEW LIBRARY PEST.—There is a new library pest, a devourer of books, and it is called the *Nicobium hirtum*—the latter scientific name indicative, probably, of how it can injure books. It belongs to the coleopterous family. The larvæ are the troublesome ones, and at-

tack particularly the soft paper found in old volumes. These larvæ have clinging powers, and when shaken off a book may crawl up from the ground and again seek their literary pastures. The larvæ develop into beetles from 0.12 to 0.16 of an inch in length. On the backs of these beetles there are bands which distinguish them from other book-pests. We are indebted to southern Europe for the *Nicobium hirtum*. The damage it has done has been in libraries in the Southern States. — *New York Times*.

REVOLVING BOOKCASE. — Described in Official Gazette of the U. S. Patent Office, April 28, 75:602. $\frac{1}{2}$ col. il.

This case revolves on balls, "said balls forming bearings for the case and base."

Gifts and Bequests.

Boulder, Col. The state preparatory school of the University of Colorado received on April 17 the sum of \$1000 for the founding of a library.

Easthampton (Mass.) P. L. A. By the will of the late Mrs. Emeline R. Warner, practically all her estate, valued at about \$21,000, is bequeathed to the library association as a trust fund, to be known as the "Levi Warner and Emeline R. Warner trust fund."

Fairfield, Ct. Frederick Sturges, of Fairfield, recently came into possession of a fine piece of property, the site of the St. Marc's Hotel. It is his intention to pull down the hotel and erect in its place a public library building.

Loda, Ill. The town has received from Mrs. A. H. Smith the sum of \$2500 for the erection of a public library building; A. Goodell, of Loda, has also given \$1000 toward the library, to be used as an endowment fund for maintenance. The local literary society has 700 v. as a nucleus for the library.

North Adams (Mass.) P. L. On April 6 Mayor A. C. Houghton presented to the city a building for the library, to be a memorial to his brother, Andrew J. Houghton, of Boston. The property thus given to the city is known as the Blackinton mansion, it is valued at \$125,000, and is one of the finest and most desirable residences in the city. It is on a central site, is three stories high, and is built of brick with brown-stone trimmings. It is about 80 feet wide by 100 feet deep, and contains 39 rooms. The interior decorations are very rich, and it is thought that with some alterations it will make a fine library building. Mayor Houghton, in his letter conveying the property, states that it is to be used "solely for a public library and reading and historical rooms."

Philadelphia F. L. On April 7 the Supreme Court rendered a decision in favor of the library, regarding a bequest made by Robert G. White, reversing the ruling of the Orphans'

Court. Mr. White willed \$2000 to the Presbyterian Orphanage, \$2000 to the Presbyterian Home for Widows and Single Women, and \$100 to the Indigent Widows' and Single Women's Society, with the proviso that if they encouraged or advocated prohibition or local option the bequests were to go to the Free Library. The Orphans' Court ruled that the charities named had not incurred the penalty of inhibition, and awarded the bequests to them. The Supreme Court, however, decides that there can be no doubt that the managers of the institutions mentioned are opposed to the liquor traffic, as are many of the members of the church and one-third of the voters of the commonwealth. The bequests, therefore, go to the library.

Plainfield (N. J.) P. L. J. Herbert Johnston, of New York City, offered on April 8 to give to the library the valuable collection of rare coins owned by his father, the late J. Taylor Johnston, president of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The collection is valued at several thousand dollars, and the only condition imposed is that it be given a proper and safe place for exhibition.

Princeton, N. J. College of New Jersey. It is reported that a new library building will be given to the college by a friend whose name is withheld for the present; it is to cost from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

Yale Univ. L., New Haven. The library has received a gift of \$1500 as a class of 1897 fund, derived from the profits of this year's junior promenade.

Librarians.

ALLEN, Miss Letitia S., for seven years assistant librarian in the Pawtucket Free Public Library, has resigned her position to accept that of librarian of the Public Library of Attleboro, Mass.

BABINE, Alexis V., has been appointed librarian of the Indiana University Library, at Bloomington, Ind., the appointment to take effect August 1, 1896. Mr. Babine is a Russian by birth, but has been in the United States for seven years. He was for some time a student in the University of St. Petersburg, and after coming to the United States pursued his studies at Cornell University and worked in the library at the same time. He has had several years' experience in library work, and is especially proficient in languages.

BUTLER, Wentworth S., librarian of the New York Society Library, was at the recent meeting of the society retired from active duties and made librarian emeritus, after a service of 40 years. Mr. Butler, who was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1848, became temporary assistant at the Society Library in the latter part of 1855, and in the following year he superintended the removal of the library to its new building, then just completed. Soon after,

on the resignation of the librarian, John McMullen, Mr. Butler was made librarian, a position he held uninterruptedly until last month.

COPE, Mrs. Lana J., has been appointed state librarian of Iowa, succeeding Mrs. L. C. Creighton on the expiration of her three years' term. The state library of Iowa is still "in politics."

CHASE, Miss Florence, cataloger at the St. Louis Public Library, has been appointed cataloger in the Public Documents Division at Washington.

FORD, Miss Fanny, a graduate of the Pratt Institute library class of 1894, has been engaged as librarian for *McClure's Magazine*, New York.

FRISBEE, Dr. E. S., late president of Wells College, at present connected with the N. Y. State Library School, at Albany, N. Y., offers his services as a searcher of genealogical records. While studying library methods at Albany, as well as previously, he has given much attention to genealogical work, and is desirous of making a specialty of it. Correspondence is solicited. Address to the care of the N. Y. State Library, Albany, N. Y.

GALBREATH, Prof. C. B., of Rogers, O., was on April 30 appointed state librarian of Ohio, succeeding Joseph P. Smith, resigned. The appointment was made by the new state library commission and was promptly confirmed by the governor. Prof. Galbreath was born in Lisbon, O., in 1858, and has been a journalist and state school superintendent. For some years past he has been president of Mt. Hope College, at Rogers, O.

GIBSON, Miss Irene, cataloger at the St. Louis Public Library, has been appointed cataloger in the Public Documents Division at Washington. Miss Gibson, with Miss Chase, also of the St. Louis Library, passed successfully the civil service examination for the position, which was taken by 80 applicants, of whom five only passed. She studied for a year at the New York state library school and then became assistant at the Detroit Public Library, going from there to St. Louis.

HARRISON, Joseph Leroy, who on April 3 was elected librarian of the Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library, declined that position on April 17. The reason given was the uncertainty of tenure and circumstances caused by the election of school board officers in June. As the library is controlled by the school board, a change in its membership at that time would naturally affect the administration of the library. It is unlikely that any further steps will be taken by the board toward securing a new librarian, at least until after the election. In the meantime Miss E. G. Browning continues in office, and it is probable that she will remain there.

HERRON, Miss Winifred A., of Endicott, Mass., went on May 1 to Newburyport, Mass.,

to classify and catalog the Public Library. She studied one year at the Library School.

KUMLI, Miss Bertha, for six years librarian of the Santa Rosa (Cal.) Free Public Library, was on April 8 succeeded by Mrs. J. E. Jackman. The election was conducted by the new board of library trustees, and the vote stood three for Mrs. Jackman and two for Miss Kumli. The Santa Rosa Library has not yet been lifted out of politics, but is still regarded as an "office," which should be changed as other town offices are. At a meeting of the Santa Rosa Teachers' Club, on April 9, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, We, the teachers of the Santa Rosa public schools, have learned of the retirement of Miss Bertha Kumli as librarian of the Free Public Library, and

"Whereas, The use of our Free Library has become an important and indispensable factor in education by the schools largely by her years of patient labor, intelligent attention, and sympathetic comprehension of the relation of the library to the schools, and by the use of the invaluable fund of information which her years of experience and study have given her in the knowledge of the contents of books valuable in school use and in general reading by children; therefore be it

"Resolved, In behalf of the interests of the schools, and in just recognition of the invaluable service Miss Kumli is now capable of rendering in the school use of the library, we thus express our sense of public misfortune in the retirement of an earnest, trained, and universally obliging public official. And be it further

"Resolved, As citizens desiring the best possible service in public institutions, we deplore the disregard of the principle which lies at the foundation of efficient service in public office, that capable administration is the first qualification for tenure of office, especially in those offices of which that of librarian is one, requiring special training and long experience."

TAYLOR, W: Curtis, librarian of the Tacoma (Wash.) City Library, has brought suit to annul the appointment of his successor, Herbert Bashford, who was appointed to the office on April 21 by the newly elected mayor, A. V. Fawcett. Mr. Taylor has been librarian for the past four years, and his enthusiasm and devotion to his work have been chiefly instrumental in raising the library to its present high plane of efficiency. By an oversight in framing the new city charter, which was adopted at the city election on April 7, the terms of "all city officers" were made to expire on the third Tuesday of April, 1896, a clause that includes the library within its provisions. The local press has almost unanimously supported Mr. Taylor, and urged his reappointment, and the mayor received many letters to the same effect from citizens, but the "office" was nevertheless turned over to another candidate. Mr. Taylor refused to give up his post, or to leave the library, and on April 23 brought suit against the city, the mayor, and Mr. Bashford, asking that they be restrained from interfering with the library or with his position. The suit is based on an ordinance passed in 1894, creating the library and providing the appointment of a librarian to serve for five years. As he was appointed under this ordinance Mr. Taylor claims that his term of office will not expire until January 30, 1899. The preliminary injunction granted in the suit was dissolved on April 26 and Mr. Bashford obtained possession of the library, Mr. Taylor retaining the various record books.

VAN HOEVENBERG, Miss Elizabeth, librarian of the South Orange (N. J.) Free Library, has resigned that position to become librarian of the Ferguson Library, Stamford, Ct.

WIRE, Dr. G. A., formerly of the Newberry Library, Chicago, has been engaged to re-classify the books of the Evanston (Ill.) Public Library.

Cataloging and Classification.

BOWDOIN COLLEGE L., *Brunswick, Me.* Bibliographical contributions, no. 5, March, 1896. p. 279-298. O.

Contains the fifth of the series of classed lists of "One hundred books," the present one covering the year 1895, and intended to be a useful guide to libraries in the selection of books. The entries are as brief as possible, and appended to each is a reference to two or more reviews in standard literary journals. Only 15 novels and juveniles are included "because along these important lines the patrons of public libraries rarely fail to make known their wishes," and thus books in other departments can be included. The selection is excellent, and the list well carries out its purpose, which is "to suggest representative books which it is believed are worthy of consideration, and especially to indicate reviews which speak fully of their merits and defects." There is also included a reference-list on "The northern counties of England in literature."

BROOKLINE (*Mass.*) P. L. Catalogue of English prose fiction in the library, January, 1895, arranged alphabetically by authors and titles, with historical and juvenile books indicated. Brookline, 1895. 298 p. D. [Second edition.]

The main features of this catalog were fully noted in the L. J. for July, 1895 (20:248). In issuing a second edition Mr. Bolton has availed himself of outside suggestion and criticism to make a careful revision of the historical annotations, with other typographical and bibliographical corrections. The result is gratifying, especially in the annotations, which have gained much in consistency and usefulness. The finding-list should not only be welcome aid to Brookline readers, but useful and suggestive to other libraries.

CLEVELAND (O.) P. L. The open shelf: being a list of books added to the library, December, 1895. p. 94-210. O.

Beginning life as a small 16 or 24 page pamphlet, the *Open Shelf* has grown to substantial magazine form. This number is devoted to a subject-list of the accessions (some 400 v.) from October to December, 1895, each title being followed by full and interesting critical or descriptive notes. An author-index is appended.

DES MOINES (*Ia.*) P. L. *Bulletin* no. 9 contains a list of the accessions of February, two pages

of comment on new books, and general library notes.

DETROIT (*Mich.*) P. L. *Bulletin* no. 7, of books added to the library in 1895. 184 p. O.

This is the second supplement to the general catalog of 1893, and is similar in plan and arrangement to its predecessors. It possesses the qualities of simplicity, method, and handiness that make the Detroit catalogs not only most useful to the library's constituency but valuable models and guides to librarians. An appendix of one page is devoted to "Books in the Dutch language," presented to the library in 1895 by J. B. Nagelvoort, of Detroit.

ENOCH PRATT P. L., *Baltimore.* [Quarterly] *Bulletin*, April 1, 1896. 34 p. O.

HAMILTON (*Ontario, Can.*) P. L. English prose fiction (including translations), arranged numerically, same as indicator. 40 p. O. 5 c.

Besides the main numerical list, includes an alphabetic author-list of additions since June, 1894, and a list of books for young people, arranged numerically.

HELENA (*Mont.*) P. L. *Bulletin* 17, April, 1896. p. 261-284.

Contains the 10th annual report of the library, covering the nine months ending Dec. 31, 1895, and a classed list of recent accessions.

NOTTINGHAM (*Eng.*) F. P. REF. L. Third supplement to class-list no. 3: Science. 16 p.

THE OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* for April has a pleasantly written article citing some of the best "Books for spring" on gardening, flowers, and kindred subjects.

THE OTIS L. (*Norwich, Ct.*) *Bulletin* for April concludes the reference-list in elementary physics, begun in the March number.

THE PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for March devotes its valuable reference-lists to "Cuba" and "The Torrens system of land registration." The April number has an admirable list on "The Olympic games."

REGLES technique de bibliographie en physiologie adoptées par le congrès international de physiologie (à Rome, 1895). (In *Bulletin* of the Institut International de Bibliographie for 1895-96, nos. 2-3.)

Reviewed at some length and criticised in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, April, 1896.

THE SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for April contains two special reading-lists on "High-school course in English: collateral reading" and "Botany for children." Both these lists have also been reprinted in handy folder form for distribution and reference in the schools.

SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for April has a short reading-list on Patriots' day, April 19.

WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L.' *Bulletin* for March has a special list on music, including books on great composers.

CHANGED TITLES.

"The damnation of Theron Ware," by Harold Frederic, pub. in this country by Stone & Kimball, of Chicago, is published in England by Heinemann, under the title "Illumination."

FULL NAMES.

Anderson, Jerome August (Die Seele);
Ham, C: Herbert (Manual training);
Raines, Cadwell Walton (Bibliography of Texas). C: A. N.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library.

Colton, Allen Lysander (Sunsets at Mount Hamilton);

Heverly, Clement Ferdinand (History of Monroe township and borough);

Howell, G: Foster (Howell's steam vessels and marine engines);

Hull, W: I:, *joint author* (Bibliography of selected sociological references);

Kneeland, F: Newton (Northampton the Meadow City);

Palmer, Theodore Sherman (The jack rabbits of the United States);

Schweinitz, Emil Alexander de (Chemical examination of cornstalks).

Bibliography.

AERIAL LOCOMOTION. Wouwermans, Armand.

Contribution à la bibliographie de la locomotion aérienne. Anvers, De Backer, 1896. 43 p. 4°. 3 fr.

The *Revue Bibliothèque Belge* says: "This is in reality an extensive bibliography, comprising German, English, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Netherlandish, Scandinavian, and Russian works on the subject. The record of each work includes the author's name, title, publisher, size, year of edition, number of pages, and price. It is a valuable bibliography to the scientist interested in the interesting and unsolved problem of aerial navigation and it shows patient and conscientious research."

AMERICAN LITERATURE. Matthews, J. Brander.

An introduction to the study of American literature. N. Y., Am. Book Co. [1896.] c. 2-256 p. il. D. \$1.

Bibliographical notes are appended to each chapter.

ARCTIC EXPLORATION. Greely, A. W. Hand-

book of Arctic discoveries. Bost., Roberts, 1896. c. 10+257 p. por. maps, S. (Columb. knowledge ser. no. 3.) \$1.

A chapter on "Bibliography" gives briefly sources of information on the subject.

ELECTRICITY. Osterberg, Max. Synopsis of current electrical literature. New York, D. Van Nostrand Co., 1896. 13+143 p. O.

In the introduction we are told that this Synopsis is "the first publication of its kind in the English language." It gives the headings and the authors of the most important articles relating to electricity that were published in 59 technical journals in 1895, in the English, French, and German languages. Each title is followed by a few descriptive remarks. The book is based on the monthly synopsis which appeared in *Electric Power* during 1895. There is an alphabetical index of authors, and the titles are classified under a number of convenient headings. Under the headings, however, there is no attempt to arrange in any order, alphabetical or otherwise; and one may be obliged to go through a dozen pages to find the article he wants on any subject. For example, under Biographical, the first subject is George H. Roe; the last, Franklin Leonard Pope. This lack of systematic arrangement is a serious drawback in the use of the book, and it is to be hoped that it will be remedied in future years, for it is of great value to students of electricity.

GEOLOGY. In the report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science for 1895, W. Whitaker has contributed the following bibliographies: p. 388-92, Second chronological list of works on the coast-changes and shore-deposits of England and Wales; p. 394-402, Second chronological list of works referring to underground water, England and Wales; p. 674-75, List of the chief papers on the old rocks underground in southeastern England since 1889.

NAVAL ADMINISTRATION. Admiral Sir R. Vesey Hamilton, in his book on "Naval administration" (London: George Bell & Sons), gives a bibliography of the subject (p. 201-207). The major part of the bibliography is composed of parliamentary reports, papers, etc.

TASSO. The *Revista delle Biblioteche*, of Rome, contained in a recent issue a bibliography of Tasso, containing some 200 titles, compiled by Prof. Angelo Solerti, on the occasion of the third centenary of Tasso's death.

WATER. Warrington, T. C. The composition of water: a short bibliography. (In *Chemical News*, beginning March 20, p. 137, and continued in the issues of March 27, April 2, 10, and 17, concluded.)

These papers, bearing on the determination of the ratio of O: H, are arranged in chronological order under the following heads: 1. Determination of the relative densities of hydrogen and oxygen; 2. Determination of the ratio of the combined volumes of hydrogen and oxygen; 3. Gravimetric methods (a, b, c, d); 4. Critical and miscellaneous.

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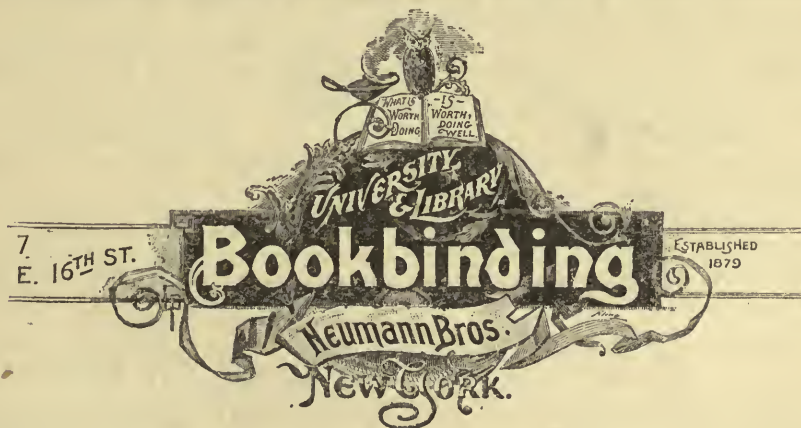
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JUNE, 1896.

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THE conference of 1896 at Cleveland gives good promise, from the preliminary program, of a gathering at once enjoyable and profitable. Cleveland is in so central a position, except as regards the South, that there should be a large attendance, including, we hope, fair representation of Canadian librarians. Special emphasis will be given to a Trustees' meeting, and it will be good missionary work for librarians to induce as many trustees as possible to be present. Arrangements for the Post-conference trip promise a delightful journey at very low cost. The arrangements for the European trip of '97 do not, as yet, show visible progress, but it is to be hoped, and expected, that the plans will be announced in full at Cleveland and that they will be such as to induce everybody who can to take part in that pilgrimage.

THE merry game of politics in state and city libraries still goes on—the latest sufferer being the state of Maryland. We are informed that the recent incumbent of the state librarianship at Annapolis was kept so busy managing his hotel that he could not give adequate attention to the library, and after threatening to hold the fort against the attacks of the governor, he has at last given up the fight and made way for his successor. The new appointee, a lady, also, it is understood, owes her appointment to politics, but having been appointed she is entitled to a fair trial. It does not follow that all political appointments are in themselves bad. The new appointee at the Tacoma Public Library, Mr. Herbert Bashford, desires that this exception should be noted in his behalf. He has written the JOURNAL in courteous and friendly protest, calling attention to the fact that he had been librarian of the Mercantile Library, which was the progenitor of the present Tacoma Public Library. The fact that proper men may sometimes be appointed as the result of political methods does not excuse the improper methods themselves, and the time should come when a librarian who does good work for a state or city will be as secure in his tenure of office as the librarian or other executive of a private association or business corporation, which seeks by every means to get and keep the best men.

THE opening of the new building of the Pratt Institute Free Library, in Brooklyn, calls fresh attention to one of the most noble examples of private munificence which our generation has seen. The \$190,000 spent on the new building is but a small part of the fortune that has been devoted to the great educational work combined in the several departments of the Pratt Institute, which is entitled to the credit not only of doing good work in its own neighborhood but of furnishing the exemplar and setting the pace for other institutions, such as the Drexel Institute in Philadelphia and the Armour Institute in Chicago. The benefactions of Charles Pratt have been admirably administered by his sons, and the Institute is established on the firm basis of an endowment in buildings and land affording good rental and promising increasing return from generation to generation. The Pratt Institute, indeed, has been a shining example of wise beneficence and far-reaching foresight, and these qualities are shown in the latest provisions for its library.

THE International Conference to be held in London in July next will mark the beginning of a memorable era in the cataloging of scientific literature. The provisional scheme shows a large view of the subject and sympathy with the most modern methods. It will be most difficult to establish the line of demarcation, in these days, between pure and applied science, as, for instance, in the department of electricity, and the conference could easily waste all its sessions in discussing such points as these. Doubtless such questions will be referred to special committees, which will possibly report at an adjourned conference a year or so hence, as is the usual practice of the British Association. It is to be hoped that the scope of the catalog, while it cannot cover all the articles in many practical technical periodicals now published, will be extended sufficiently into applied science to give a more complete view of the scientific field than would otherwise be possible. The advance during the past twelvemonth in our knowledge of the Roentgen rays has been almost entirely within the domain of applied science; though no line of investigation is likely to be more prolific in its results on pure science.

WE give elsewhere in full the interesting scheme of Mr. Brett for a monthly index of periodical literature, which, beginning with January in each year, would be cumulative each month, so that each monthly number would contain all the entries of the previous month and the twelfth or December number would contain the entries for the full year. This would certainly be an ideal index for library purposes, and if the \$2000 guarantee fund can be raised either from 200 subscriptions at \$10 per year or 400 at \$5 per year, Mr. Brett undertakes to issue such a publication and not to ask payment for the subscription until after the sixth number is an accomplished fact. If the Cleveland Public Library is willing to perform such a service, those libraries which can afford to take such a periodical will have reason to be grateful to it. If it is as full in its list of periodicals as the "Annual literary index," it will have a considerable advantage over that publication, in combining the usefulness of a monthly and of an annual index, although it will not include the other features of that annual.

BUT the cost has to be counted. Such a publication cannot be issued except at considerable annual cost for capable bibliographical work—or else a librarian or his assistant must take that work out of their own time. The bills for manufacture are only one part of the real cost of such a publication as this. The success of this issue would also make impracticable the continuance of the "Annual literary index" itself, which in turn would make less possible the five-yearly continuation of "Poole's Index." The other features, in addition to the index to periodical literature, would of course lapse with the main feature, and this, in turn, would make less possible the issue of the five-yearly supplement to the Fletcher "Index to general literature." The "Annual literary index" has never, in its several years of publication, enjoyed so high a return as \$2000—although it has not attempted to enter the advertising field, and the number of subscribers is limited practically to about 500. This publication does not meet the demand for a monthly index, but this demand was met some years ago when the "Co-operative index to periodicals" was published monthly. The difficulties in the way of prompt publication and the lack of really adequate support led to a change of plan to a quarterly. It was generally considered that one alphabet was better than four, and thus the original annual came to pass.

IT may be well, in this connection, to point out the important fact that co-operation and competition cannot exist together in fields which are closely limited. The American Library Association was started for purposes of co-operation, so as to prevent waste and duplication, and to make possible enterprises which could not be individually carried out or would not be commercially profitable. In that spirit various enterprises have been started, some of which have proved that there was no adequate demand and *raison d'être* for them, others of which have shown their right to exist, but few of which, with the exception of the Library Bureau, have shown adequate commercial profit. It is well worth while to consider, throughout the library field, whether there should be loyal support from the several libraries for co-operative or practically co-operative enterprises, or whether each library should endeavor to accomplish its purposes in its own way, at the expense of other co-operative work.

Communications.

LIBRARIES AND BICYCLES—A QUERY.

I WOULD like to inquire whether the bicycle has caused any decrease of reading in the libraries throughout the country? I think it has made a slight difference in our business recently. Nearly every one rides a wheel in these days, and it would seem that this takes some of the time formerly devoted to literature. While cycling is good exercise, and healthful if not overdone, it seems sad that mental culture should languish. Can there not be a book-holder adjusted to the handles of the "bike," so that those who ride can read? Thus could bodily exercise and fresh air be had without neglecting the mind! Perhaps the Library Bureau may be able to suggest some appliance for the improvement of the bicycle in the direction indicated?

W. A. BARDWELL.

BROOKLYN LIBRARY, {
BROOKLYN, N. Y. }

A CORRECTION—THE ST. LOUIS P. L. INCOME.

THE statement in the article "Libraries and the library problem in Greater New York" (L. J., March, 1896) that the income of the St. Louis Public Library was "over \$100,000" yearly, while true in fact, may lead to a false impression, and should, therefore, be corrected. The income of the library, as stated in its 1895 report, was \$108,000, but of this \$46,000 was balance from the previous year. The income from city tax was \$59,320, to which was added \$2615 from fines, etc. Mr. Crunden says: "If we had an income of over \$100,000 a year we could do a great deal more work than we are now able to do."

BAD FEATURES OF GOOD BOOKS.*

BY H. CARRINGTON BOLTON.

THE expression "bad features" in the title of this paper does not refer to erroneous statements, blunders in dates, names or facts, anachronisms, misquotations, blemishes in style, or the innumerable objectionable peculiarities of authors, some or several of which may be found in books otherwise deserving the qualification "good," but the "bad features" are those imperfections and absurdities in the "make-up" of books, due generally to the inexperience of authors and the carelessness of publishers.

These comprise weak points in title-pages, tables of contents, indexes, pagination, running head-lines, etc., of books, as well as eccentricities in the make-up of periodicals, some of which exhibit a stupidity well-nigh incredible. These bad features do not in all cases annoy the general reader, but they are prolific sources of vexation of spirit to the cataloger and the librarian, as well as of errors on the part of scholars who attempt to make accurate references to them.

Defects in title-pages:

Aside from the question of ill-chosen titles which convey false notions as to the nature of the books, some authors attempt to print on the title-page a full analysis of the contents. These extraordinarily long title-pages were more common a hundred years ago than at present, the reaction against them now leading to extreme brevity.

William Salmon's "Polygraphice," published at London in 1685, contains 223 words on the title-page. Arthur Conrad Erstingius's "Nucleus totius medicinæ quinque partitus," printed in 1741 at Helmstädt, contains 204 words on its crowded title-page, and Johann Kunckel, von Löwenstern, the German chemist, apparently undertook to print as large a portion of his "Ars vitraria experimentalis" on the title-page as typography allowed, for it contains no less than 300 words; the date is 1743.

The publication of an old book with an entirely new title is a piece of dishonesty that cannot be too severely condemned, and one of which no respectable publisher should be guilty. The editors of the LIBRARY JOURNAL keep a sharp lookout for these attempts to

deceive bookbuyers, and frequently print lists of "changed titles," as they are technically known. This practice is not exclusively restricted to modern times; I have before me as I write two copies of an identical book, one bearing the title "Die Edelgeborne Jungfer Alchymia," published at Tübingen in 1730, and the other having the title "Ehren-Rettung der Alchymie," published at Herrenstadt in the same year. These titles are here greatly abbreviated, and the sub-titles differ widely; the pages following the title-pages are absolutely identical. The work was published anonymously and is very scarce.

One feature of book-making, chiefly confined to Germany, is very vexatious to catalogers, viz.: the insertion of two distinct title-pages, facing each other at the front of the volume. In some cases where the first title-page gives the title of the series to which the book belongs and the second the proper title of the volume in hand there is a reasonable excuse, but this is by no means the only way in which the objectionable feature occurs. The custom is too common with Germans to require illustration; mention may be made, however, of the chemical writings of Johann Wolfgang Döbereiner, published early in the century, whose double titles are characteristic.

This plan is really indefensible, since the information can easily be merged on a single page and made quite clear by using distinctive types.

The omission of dates on title-pages of modern books is unhappily too often done with intent to deceive buyers as to the date of production; in the case of books dealing with scientific topics the practice cannot be too strongly condemned. Muspratt's "Chemistry," 2 vols., 4to, published in Edinburgh, London, and New York, is an illustration; the first edition was issued between 1853 and 1861, and dateless title-pages still accompany later editions, to entrap the unwary student.

Happily this scheme for working off on the unsuspecting public books behind the times fails with copyright works, though not a few bookbuyers neglect to turn over the title-page in order to ascertain the true date.

Hardly less reprehensible is the addition of a new title-page bearing the current date to an old publication, a feature much too common in

* Read before the Washington (D.C.) Library Association, March 25, 1896; to be followed by a second paper, entitled, "Bad features of periodicals."

the United States. This suggests a paragraph on the real meaning of the vague term "edition," but the unsatisfactory way in which this word is used has been often discussed.

Whether or no the entire absence of a title-page can be regarded as a defect is questionable, but it certainly is a bad feature in a book. This peculiarity is characteristic of many meteorological journals, weather reports, and climatic observations, which for some incomprehensible reason are often the worst edited works encountered in a library.

Prefaces:

Prefaces furnish the only medium of communication between the author and the reader on minor details concerning the volume and are exceedingly useful. In publishing a second (or later) edition of a work, editors sometimes omit the date of the first preface, which may, however, be an important item for the scholar.

Table of contents:

The omission of a table of contents is a very bad feature in some good books. Even the existence of an index by no means makes a table of contents superfluous, for they fulfil different purposes. The preparation of a table of contents is generally a very simple matter, and may be secured by arranging in order the chapter-headings, or other sub-titles of the volume.

The French publishers have pretty generally adopted the plan of placing the table at the end of the book, in an endeavor to make it serve the additional purpose of an index, a scheme which really deceives no thoughtful reader.

Indexes:

So much has been written in bitter condemnation of the omission of indexes that nothing which I can add will contribute to this discussion. Every one is acquainted with Mr. H. B. Wheatley's admirable and entertaining little book, "What is an index?" and to its pages you are here referred.

It occurs to me, however, that the author is often not so much to blame for the neglect to add an index as is the publisher, for a hint from the latter, or better, an offer of assistance, would often stimulate the author to provide this indispensable feature.

Our English cousins seem particularly careless in this important matter, many of their truly splendid works being indexless.

What is to be said of a book that lacks both table of contents and indexes? Such is William

Fluhrer's "Die Diastase . . .," published in Munich in 1870, an 8vo of 290 pages.

If the copyright could be refused to books without indexes, a decided advance might be made, though the quality of the indexes thus obtained might be low.

Running head-lines:

The running head-lines at the tops of pages are often badly chosen, their selection being left by the author to the printers, who adopt that heading which gives them the least trouble. A very common way is to repeat the title (shortened if necessary) on both left-hand and right-hand pages, thus affording no information to the reader. Such is the case with Mrs. Oliphant's "Makers of Venice," published by Burt in New York, date not given.

When properly studied, the running head-lines form a good index to the individual pages.

Sometimes the running head-lines are omitted altogether, and the page-numbers printed in their places—a very unsatisfactory substitute. Such is the arrangement in the dignified "Compte-rendu" of the French Academy of Sciences, and in Herder's "Catalogus systematicus" of the Royal Botanical Garden, St. Petersburg.

So valuable a work of reference as Walsh's "Handbook of literary curiosities" (Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia) has no running head-lines and no key-words, greatly hampering its convenient use.

Signatures:

Every librarian who takes pains to collate books newly received knows that in a small number of them signatures are imperfectly arranged or even lacking entirely, thereby ruining the volume for the purpose for which it was made. In the case of new books, they can be returned to the publisher, but with old ones there is no such convenient remedy. After owning for some time a copy of Priestley's "Experiments and observations on different kinds of air" (London, 1774-79, 3 vols., 8°). I made the unwelcome discovery that Vol. I. was made up of a mixture of signatures of Vol. I. and Vol. II., while Vol. II. itself was perfect. Most opportunely I soon afterwards discovered in the library of the institution with which I was connected a duplicate copy of the identical volume needed to complete my set, and which the librarian kindly exchanged for some desirable works. This piece of good fortune is a coincidence too extraordinary to be relied on.

Chapters and sections :

The appearance of solidly printed pages, with rarely a paragraph break, and without divisions into chapters or sections, is appalling, and yet some good books suffer from this easily remedied bad feature.

Volumes and parts :

Volumes and parts of volumes are sometimes singularly confounded ; this is seen in Roscoe and Schorlemmer's superb "Treatise of chemistry" (London and New York, 1878-94). This work is ostensibly in three volumes, but Vol. I. is subdivided into two "Parts," and Vol. III. into six "Parts"; since these "Parts" form full-sized, independent volumes, there are actually nine volumes, and much confusion results.

To number volumes in the order in which they are issued is too obvious a policy to require argument, yet failure to observe this has led to singular results. A French chemist, Longchamp, about 1834, planned a collection entitled "Bibliothèque du chimiste," in three series of five volumes each, and of these he published Vol. VII. as a starter ; but the enterprise was unsuccessful, and librarians will hunt in vain for the preceding six volumes !

French publishers use the words "tome" and "volume" in such loose ways that it is impossible to determine which is the larger and which the smaller division. On referring to

Littré, the standard lexicographer, it appears that there is no definite discrimination observed in the French language.

Notes :

Some editors load their books with "oppressively erudite notes," out of all proportion to the text. Gosse's edition of "Gray's Poems (selected)" has 42 p. of notes to 60 p. of poetry. J. F. Gmelin's "Geschichte der Chemie" (3 vols., Leipzig, 1776-77) has an undue proportion of foot-notes, often one line of text and the rest of the page wholly notes in small type. Such a make-up is bewildering to readers. At the close of Gmelin's third volume there are 16 p. of Errata, another bad feature.

Illustrations :

Illustrations are very often arranged in a volume with little or no reference to the text they should accompany; in magazines this is unavoidable for purely mechanical reasons.

Sometimes illustrations are introduced which are not in any way referred to in the text, yet are otherwise sufficiently appropriate.

In recent editions of Mrs. Jameson's works the plates do not bear legends sufficiently explicit, necessitating constant reference to the list of illustrations. Neglect to print on plates references to pages treating of the subjects represented is another cause of annoyance to lovers of fine books.

THE CONNECTICUT PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.*

BY CAROLINE M. HEWINS, *Librarian Hartford (Ch.) Public Library.*

It was at one of the early meetings of the Connecticut Library Association, held in Hartford, in May, 1891, that the president, Mr. Van Name, spoke of the recently issued report of the Massachusetts Library Commission and urged the importance of new library legislation in Connecticut and the establishment of a similar commission.

Connecticut moves slowly, and the legislature meets biennially instead of annually. It was not until June, 1893, that a library act was passed permitting unlimited appropriations for the establishment and yearly maintenance of public libraries. The limit to the number of directors was also removed, but the total number must be divisible by three, one-third being elected annually, to serve three years. The State Board of Education was directed to an-

nually appoint five persons, to be called the Connecticut Public Library Committee, serving without compensation, but entitled to \$500 annually for clerical assistance and necessary expenses. It was made the duty of the committee to give advice and assistance, when requested by librarians or directors of public libraries and teachers of public schools, in regard to the selection and purchase of books, the cataloging of books, and any other matters pertaining to the maintenance or administration of the library. When a new free public library is established and duly provided for, the committee may expend for books, to be selected by them, a sum not exceeding the amount expended by the town, and not to exceed \$200. By an act of 1895 the committee was authorized to expend in the purchase of books for any free public library a sum not exceeding the amount annually appropriated and expended by the town, or, in

* A paper read before the Massachusetts Library Club, January 1, 1896, at Boston.

case of the smallest towns, the amount annually appropriated and expended from any source for the increase of said library, and not to exceed \$100. At the same time it was required that every free public library receiving a state appropriation should annually make a report to the committee.

In September, 1893, the committee was appointed. Mr. Hine, the chairman, is the secretary of the State Board of Education, and is constantly travelling all over the state and often speaks at teachers' meetings and sometimes at town meetings on the advantages of public libraries. It is through his personal efforts that our 23 towns have established them. Notice that almost all of them have voted a sum equal to what the state will give, and since the new act of 1895 they are meeting the state's annual grant as far as they are able.

The committee has issued five circulars, the latest giving copies of the law, form for votes, choice of directors, certificates, etc. One of them tells what a free library does for a country town, and was reprinted in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* within a few months. Members of the committee have expressed in these circulars their willingness to meet the officers of town libraries and to go to country towns if necessary. One or the other of them is often present at the opening of a new library.

Since the Connecticut Public Library Committee held its first meeting in September, 1893, 23 towns have established public libraries.* These towns are in all parts of the state, and represent entirely different social conditions. Most of them already had subscription libraries, varying from a few hundred to 5000 volumes. The first to report was Seymour, one of the manufacturing towns of recent growth in New Haven county, which asked for books better fitted for students than average readers—Fiske's "Cosmic philosophy," for example. It was followed by Wethersfield, Suffield, and Durham, fine old towns, with broad, elm-shaded streets, and mansion-houses, once the homes of men famous in church and state. Durham had established in 1733 a library belonging to 25 "coparceners," and this library existed till 1787, when a new one was formed, which after some 50 years went into private hands. Wethersfield and Suffield had each about 2000 well-selected volumes. Wethersfield owned but few books for children, and on this account asked for a larger pro-

portion than usual of books of this class. Suffield requested a good dictionary, encyclopædia, and atlas. In general the committee prefers spending the gift of the state for a larger number of cheaper volumes, but has approved reference-books for Suffield and another town to be mentioned later.

Next came Putnam, a large manufacturing town near the eastern border; Plainville, a town near Hartford, partly agricultural and partly suburban; and Union, which has the smallest population in the state, and lies near the northeast corner. Putnam and Plainville had subscription libraries which were turned over to the towns. Plainville asked for several copies each of books for use in the higher grades of the public schools, such as Rolfe's edition of some of Shakespeare's plays, "Sir Roger de Coverley," "Gulliver's travels," Scott's poems, and Macaulay's "Lays of ancient Rome." Union requested for the same purpose duplicates of books for younger children—Jane Andrews's "Seven little sisters," "Ten boys" and "Stories Mother Nature told," Scott's "Tales of a grandfather" and Hawthorne's "Wonder-book."

None of the towns up to this time had library buildings, but last winter Milford, a town on the Sound shore, near New Haven, which had lately celebrated its 250th anniversary by dedicating a fine memorial bridge, knocked at our doors, saying, "The town has accepted the beautiful Taylor Memorial Library, a \$25,000 stone building, 5000 volumes, including memorial alcoves given by former residents, and a subscription library. We are so well equipped in other classes that we desire from the state books on sociology, philology, natural science, useful arts, and fine arts." Newington, a town close to Hartford, was unwilling to be behind its neighbor, Wethersfield, and opened a library in the town hall with the gift of the state and a few other volumes.

East Haddam, near the mouth of the Connecticut, had had for seven years a public library of 5000 volumes, established by private subscription and the gift of a former library, and a reading-room with nearly 50 periodicals. The town voted last year to establish and maintain the library, and in consideration of all that had been done for it, the committee granted a request for Appletons' "Cyclopædia of biography" and Knight's "Mechanical dictionary," but substituted the less expensive International for the Century dictionary.

Scotland, in eastern Connecticut, the town

* Rockville, Enfield, Ansonia, and East Hartford have also established public libraries since this was written.

where Jonathan Huntington wrote the old round "Scotland's burning," has lately appropriated \$200 this year and \$25 for all succeeding years.

Portland, celebrated for its sandstone quarries, and lying on the Connecticut opposite Middletown, has made its library free, and has a building, the Buck Library, costing \$5000 or \$6000, nearly ready to be occupied. New Canaan, just on the border of New York, a town largely given over to summer residents, has also made a subscription library free. Chester, on the Connecticut opposite East Haddam, and Somers, a farming town in Tolland county, half-way between Suffield and Union, have voted for free libraries; Plymouth has opened a library in Terryville, a manufacturing village.

North Canaan, in the northwest corner of the state, has a good building for the Douglas Library, and has lately made it free. It is worthy of notice that in six adjoining towns in this part of the state — Winsted, Norfolk, Canaan, North Canaan, Sharon, and Salisbury — there are memorial libraries, the Beardsley Library in Winsted occupying a part of a building, the other buildings especially designed for them and costing from \$5000 to \$25,000. Those in Norfolk and Salisbury are free, the others almost so.

Across the Connecticut from Wethersfield lies the old town of Glastonbury, once remote from Hartford, but since the electric car line was built, one of its suburbs. The public library spirit crossed the river, and the town has voted to throw open a subscription library to the public and maintain it.

Andover, a farming town in the hills, 20 miles east of Hartford, has also felt the library influence. Hampton, another hill farming town, which joins Scotland, has followed its example.

Prospect, a small town in the hills, where the energetic and public-spirited wife of a minister has had for several years a small free lending library of the best books that she could find in paper covers; and Westbrook, a Sound summer resort, have also voted for free libraries. Middlefield, a town next Durham, received just after the act of 1893 was passed a library building, the gift of Judge Coe, of Meriden, and appropriates \$100 every year for the maintenance and increase of the library. It can therefore claim that amount from the state.

The towns are encouraged to send book-lists subject to the approval of the committee, and we have been much pleased with the careful and intelligent choice that has been made. Of course, we have to draw the line sometimes at the Elsie books or "Chimmie Fadden" or Mrs. Southworth or Mrs. Hentz, or obsolete books of science like Pepper's "Play-book," or the "Library of wonders," but in general we believe that the towns know their own needs, and so many of them have already libraries of several hundred or even thousand volumes that we allow a larger proportion of the books of the last year or two than in an entirely new library. We have in preparation a list of standard books recommended to all libraries. We have sent out a list of books of the current year as an aid in selection. This list was made after a careful comparison with the New York one printed last year, but includes few of the books mentioned in that, for the reason that it is a list of 1895 and not of 1894. It has also books which we have found popular in the best sense in the Hartford Public Library, the best new books of the last three months, and others of especial interest to Connecticut readers, like Gibson's "Our edible toadstools and mushrooms," Potts's "From a New England hill-side," Child's "Old New England town," and Hotchkiss's "In defiance of the king," a story of privateering in Long Island Sound in the Revolution and the Fort Griswold massacre. It was a little amusing, after the care and pains bestowed on the list, to receive the following criticism from one of the towns: "Is it necessary to select from the meagre catalog sent? It would be our desire to have books of more uniform excellence, wider popularity, and classic nature than are suggested in your catalog." We replied that the list was printed as a help in selecting books of 1895, but that there was no cast-iron rule compelling a library to choose from that or any other list.

On account of the connection of the committee with the board of education, we give especial attention to interesting books for young readers illustrating American history, and we have put into the town libraries copies of Mrs. Dana's "How to know the wild flowers," Grant's "Our common birds," and Mrs. Ballard's "Moths and butterflies," in order to encourage children to use their eyes out of doors and begin a training of their observing powers that will be a pleasure and resource to them all their lives.

THE PRATT INSTITUTE FREE LIBRARY, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

THE new building of the Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., was formally dedicated on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 26. About 1000 invitations to the exercises had been issued, and there was a large and interested attendance. The members of the library staff and of the library training class served as reception committee and ushers. The handsome building was decorated with flowers and potted plants, and the exercises were held in the hall containing the main stairway, seats being arranged on each of the two landings. Music was rendered by the Dannreuther quartette of New York. After the overture, prayer was offered by Rev. John Humpstone, of the Lafayette Avenue Baptist Church, and Charles M. Pratt, president of the board of trustees, then described the general purpose, equipment, and arrangement of the building.

The building as it now stands, Mr. Pratt said, is the outcome of many diverse plans, for when first conceived it was intended that the new structure should house not only the library, but the art department, museum, and auditorium of the Institute. The growth and future possibilities of the library, however, led to the discarding of these plans and the final acceptance of the design worked out in the present building, which is limited entirely to those lines of work conceived to be essentially and wisely embodied in the term "a public library." "Since its existence Pratt Institute has always maintained a free library, and its charter expressly states that such is to be one of the various objects which its founder proposed to accomplish.

"The cost of this structure and its equipment, without the books, has been \$190,000. The uses for which the various rooms are designed emphasize at once the public character of the work which we are doing. The large general reading-room on first floor front will be supplied with several hundred papers and periodicals—German, French, and Italian being represented. Adjoining that on the south is the children's reading and delivery room, where children may always find quiet and freedom for the reading and study of a large variety of youthful publications and about 1500 selected volumes, and where a trained librarian will be in attendance. This department of our library work has been, since its introduction five years ago, very helpful. Complete lists of books designed to provide for the growing child in its successive years of life a most comprehensive and discriminating selection of reading-matter have been prepared by our library staff, and have gone into many homes in our city, where they are currently used by the fathers and mothers in this fundamental work in the education of their children.

"At the western end of the building is the stack-room, with an area of 49 x 53 feet, comprising five distinct stories of stacks, with a capacity of something over 200,000 volumes, or

about five times our present number, and between it and the main hall is the large delivery-room. The whole of the second floor of this building will be devoted to reference work, to which will be assigned four trained assistants. In these various rooms will be found reference books, bound periodicals, documents, transactions and reports of numerous kinds, to which every one has free access. In addition to these general reference-rooms there has been also set apart a large front room on the third floor for students who desire to consult works on art in all its forms, and our collection of mounted art photographs, to which we are now largely adding through current purchases in Europe, and which will number within a few months some 15,000. Our system of cataloging these art photographs will enable the student to supplement his reading on any art subject in a most efficient manner. The photographs may be consulted at the art reference-room, or circulated among those who are really serious students. A large room on the south side of the building, in the third story, is designed as an exhibition hall and will be utilized currently throughout the year for the exhibition of such art collections of note as we think will be helpful in educating our own students and interesting to the general public.

"The remaining rooms on the third story are at the disposal of our school of library training, which has been connected with the Institute since the winter of 1890, and, while started originally to supply our own library with needed satisfactorily trained workers, has developed into a complete school organization. The students now coming to it may safely challenge comparison with those of other library schools, we believe, as regards character, ability, and education. The number of applications received for annual entrance to the school have been four or five times greater than our capacity to accommodate, and the severity of the examination has made it possible for us to wisely limit our number to about 20. The demand for the services of our graduates has been greater than we could supply this last year, and positions are waiting for a number of the present class, while those who have already graduated from the school are occupying important positions in library work all over the country. For several years we have had in contemplation a second-year course, the time for the establishment of which seems now ripe. In planning the course the idea has been to give work that should not be merely an extension of the first year, but work of a different quality, covering the historical and bibliographical sides of library science. The need of catalogers and bibliographers who can deal with old and rare books, manuscripts, and inscriptions is growing in this country as European collections are bought by our colleges and universities and rarities by private collectors. So far as known this field has not been chosen by any of the other library schools, and so it seems well for us to pre-empt it. This course will be open the first time in the fall of 1896.

"Since the establishment of our own free library eight years ago there has been no other similar work undertaken in this city of Brooklyn. During these years the development of free public libraries in other sections of our country and in the state of New York, in many of our large centres, has been important and general. Never in my experience has there been a stronger desire expressed on the part of the citizens in various sections of the city for the advantages of a free public library than has come to me of late months; and while we have, beside this main library, branches located in Greenpoint and Atlantic avenue, and are supplying with books a number of philanthropic clubs for club use, and a number of our public schools, we have been unable to respond to many other requests for a like service. The field occupied by the few institutions which may fairly be considered as doing free public library work is so limited and so utterly fails to cover the needs as to make it appear almost as nothing, and yet I derive real comfort and fresh courage as I review the progress of our own work and note what a single library can do. The number of persons who have at any time drawn books is 33,821, and the number now actively doing so is 16,693. More than 97,000 visits to the reading-room have been noted in the last 11 months, and over 27,000 visits to the reference-room. The circulation for the last 11 months has been 256,627, an increase of 72,000 over the first 11 months of last year. Comparing this library with other libraries in New York state, it is found to be third in size among the circulating libraries and third in the extent of its circulation, according to the last printed report of the regents. Our inclination to do better and more work is as great as ever, but our financial ability to do this is naturally limited, and when the work as outlined in this new building shall have been rounded out we shall have reached the natural and proper limitation which our founder placed upon it. That we value this work most highly I feel sure I do not need to say, but simply as an evidence thereof and as an earnest of our desire to see it extended and enlarged in our city, I may say that we have in the main library and its branches a staff of 21 trained librarians and assistants, and that in addition to the fixed cost of heating, lighting, and general repairs we spend to maintain the entire work of the department \$35,000 a year, of which amount only a moderate and limited proportion has been appropriated for books. Finally I may say that so far as our work here is related to any organized effort looking to the proper and complete equipment of our city with the advantages of free libraries and the wise and economical distribution of the work which each may be best equipped to do, we shall at any time gladly co-operate."

At the conclusion of Mr. Pratt's address, Mr. F. B. Pratt, the chairman, introduced Mrs. Margaret Deland, remarking that the speakers of the occasion had been chosen to represent the three departments into which the library's work would be divided—the literary, the civ-

ic, and the educational. The literary aspect of the subject was fitly Mrs. Deland's theme, and she read a delightful paper on books and reading and their influence on character. The reading that was "worth while" was all that she took into consideration, and that, she thought, should be among the noblest and most elevating influences of life. The danger was that the noble impulse found in all literature that is "worth while" may affect the reader only as an emotion—not as a vital and moving force. Too many readers deliver themselves up to a sensuality of the emotions, allowing their reading to stimulate transient sensations only, and to produce no lasting moral or ethical results. She quoted Matthew Arnold's statement that religion was moral conduct affected by emotion, saying that she had too often found religion to be emotion unaffected by moral conduct; in the same way the noble aspirations and emotions excited by the reading of the great thoughts of literature may stimulate the emotions only and not reach the conscience. The public library is an antidote to mere emotion. It is, moreover, no respecter of persons, for rich and poor, learned and ignorant meet there on common ground. Seneca is not scrupulous as to the fashions, and Shakespeare is indifferent to bad grammar. The library is a great factor in social intercourse; so, in their measure, are our drawing-rooms and our street-cars, but the library combines the opportunities of these for mutual consideration, for thoughtfulness and courtesy. The value of a public library in a community no words can adequately portray, nor has science any method or calculus any formula by which to measure or estimate the good it may do to this and coming generations.

Dr. Truman J. Backus, president of Packer Collegiate Institute, then spoke on the civic influence of the public library. He drew an interesting picture of the contrast between the modern library and the old-time monastic *scriptorium*, likening the public library of to-day—open to all, offering its riches to all classes alike—to the great cathedral of the mediæval town, which rose massive, magnificent, and majestic from its surroundings of narrow streets and squalid hovels, and into which all—the mean, the wicked—might freely enter. Access to books, he said, is not a mere phase of modern civilization; it is the condition and an efficient cause of modern civilization, and now, after four centuries, we have come upon the time when the public library is essential to any rational method of popular education. He spoke in detail of the relations that should exist between public libraries and schools, and cited the work in this line inaugurated at Quincy, Mass., by Charles Francis Adams, that accomplished by Mr. Green at Worcester, and that done in Chicago and in Gloversville, N. Y., as examples and incentives to other cities.

Melvil Dewey, state librarian, was the last speaker, and his subject was the educational influence of the public library on the community. He spoke of the vast development of the library movement within recent years, and

said that in time to come this would be known as the "library age." The library was becoming more and more the focus of educational life, and its benefits were not confined only to the cities, but might be—through the system of travelling libraries—disseminated through the villages and isolated country districts, bringing refreshment and instruction to book-hungry people. In concluding, Mr. Dewey remarked that he had already overstepped the time allowed him, and was in much the same predicament as the small boy who, on the glorious Fourth, was presented by his mother with a 20-ball Roman candle, with the stern injunction, "Now, mind you don't let off more than two balls!"

The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Dr. Humpstone, and the guests dispersed to inspect the details of the building and to view the collection of Swedish paintings displayed on the third floor. Among the library people present, besides the staff, students, and many graduates of the Institute library, were Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Carr, of the Scranton Public Library; Dr. G. E. Wire, formerly of the Newberry; G. H. Baker, C. A. Nelson, and several of the staff of Columbia University Library; Melvil Dewey, New York State Library; W. C. Lane, Library of the Boston Athenæum; W. A. Bardwell, Brooklyn Library; S. H. Berry, Y. M. C. A. Library, Brooklyn; W. R. Eastman, New York State Library; and Miss Hull, of the Library of the Union for Christian Work.

The library building, which is opposite the Institute, on Ryerson street, is to form one of a group of three buildings, and was therefore planned to face the campus rather than the street, and to conform in shape and size to the building that was to form the opposite wing. The main building is three-storied, 70 x 100 feet, the five-story stack-room being 49 x 53 feet; the style is free Renaissance, without pilasters or columns, and the material is of red brick with trimmings of Belleville brownstone. Broad entrance-steps of stone and mosaic open upon a wide hall paved with stone mosaic, with side columns of Siena marble. The corridors and stairway are the most ornate portions of the building, the interior decorations being exceedingly simple. The color scheme is yellow and warm brown, which gives an effect of light and space; the floors, cornices, and trimmings are of stone mosaic and marble, and the wood-work of the first floor is in quartered oak finished in an olive tone; that of the other two stories is ash. On the left of the entrance is the librarian's office, 14 x 26, lighted from the north, communicating with the reading-room in front and by a private stairway with the floor above. This is lighted by both gas and electricity, and communicates by speaking-tubes and house telephones with every part of the building. The mechanical means of communication throughout the entire building are excellent.

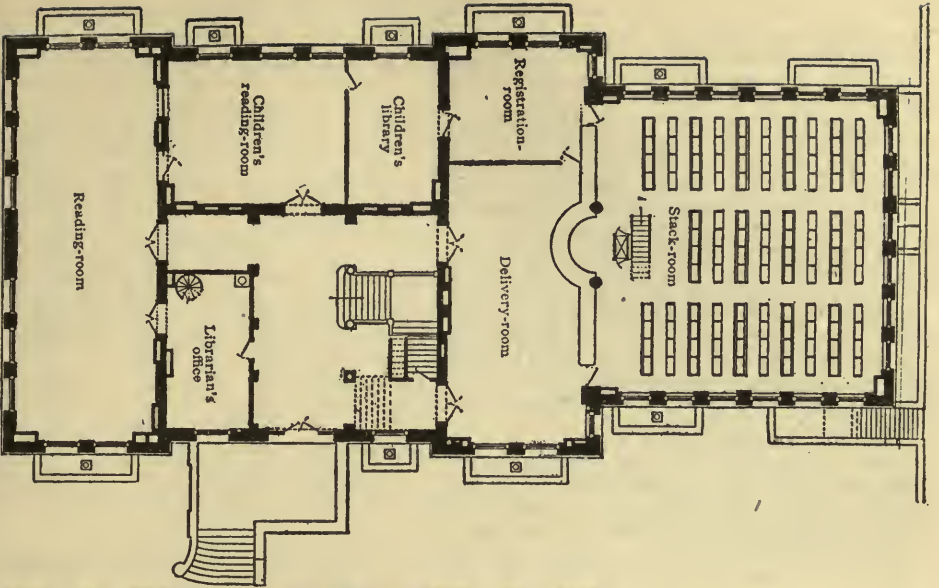
Directly opposite the librarian's office, at the extreme right, is the delivery-room, 24 x 66 feet, in which are the public card catalogs. The delivery-desk—low, and protected by a handsome screen of glass and iron—runs the

entire length of the room, while a low railing across the south end encloses a space, 16 x 24, which will be devoted to information-desk work and to the examination of new books, accessibly displayed. A central corridor, branching from the entrance hall, gives a second entrance to the delivery-room. Directly on this corridor, and facing the entrance, is the children's room, 25 x 45, lighted by four south windows. Here children under 14 will find tables, chairs, and abundance of books and magazines. Half of the room is railed off, with an entrance gate, and within this enclosure are low shelves, where the children's books will be ranged for free examination and selection, the gate preventing egress until the books have been properly charged. The entire work of choosing, issuing, receiving, and registering for the children will be carried on here. The general reading-room (for periodicals and newspapers only) is on the extreme right, opposite the delivery-room, and connecting with the central corridor and the librarian's office. It is 24 x 66, and is handsomely fitted with reading-tables and chairs, while the large counter is provided with small cupboard-like shelves for the back numbers of magazines, in addition to a large wall-case for the same.

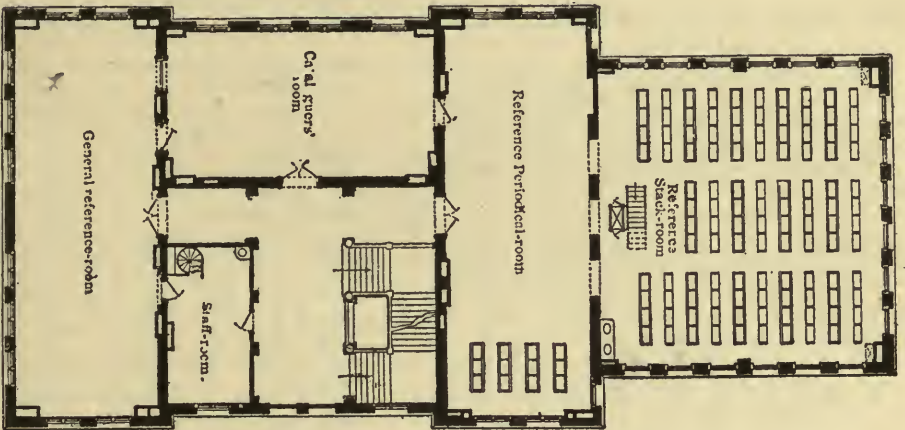
The second floor is the reference floor—secure from interruption by children, transient visitors, book-borrowers, and newspaper or magazine readers, who are all provided for on the floor below. The plan is similar to that of the first story. Above the librarian's room, and communicating with it by a private stairway, is a "rest-room" for the use of the staff. This also communicates with the general reference-room, which is just above the periodical reading-room. It is large and well lighted, fitted with wall shelving, where the reference-books will be freely accessible, and provided with 15 tables, a large case for folios, and the attendant's desk. Opening from this, above the children's room, is the catalogers' room, which connects also with the periodical reference-room, above the delivery-room. This second reference-room is devoted to bound periodicals and to consultation of books wanted from the stack-room, while the fourth stack, which is even with this floor, will also be used for reference purposes, for the overflow of bound magazines, government documents, society transactions, etc.

The third floor is devoted to the library-class room, on the right, which will be eventually divided by partitions into the regular course room and the special two-years' course room, and which is connected by an electric book-elevator with the stack-room and the rooms directly below; to the central art-room, in which special collections will be from time to time displayed; and to the art reference-room containing the art-books and the library's large collection of mounted photographs. It is possible that later developments in the library's work may modify the uses now assigned to these rooms.

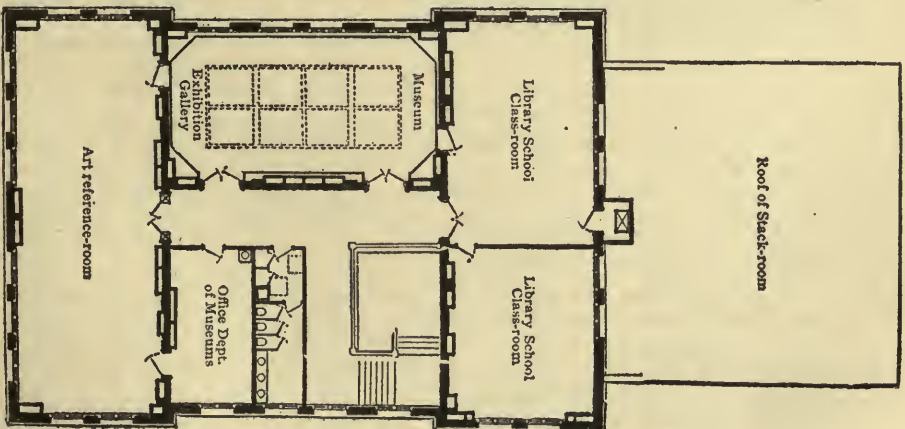
The basement contains four or five rooms in addition to the basement stack; in it are placed



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.



THIRD FLOOR PLAN.

the storage and unpacking rooms, the heating and lighting apparatus. The building is lighted by electricity, though gas is also supplied in the offices.

The amply lighted stack-room, fireproof, and forming a wing to the main building, is five-storied and opens directly from each floor. Directly back of the electric book-elevator, by which books may be brought to every floor, an easy flight of stairs leads from one stack to another. The floors are of glass set in an iron framework, the pieces about 10 x 18 inches. The shelving is of L. B. construction, with bronzed iron frames and dark oak shelves. The central aisles are 3½ feet wide, and the cross aisles between the stacks 2½ feet. The library will be able to fill the first floor of the stack at once, about 40,000 volumes, and will next use the stack above.

The work of moving the books was accomplished with remarkable order and rapidity; it was completed without closing the library or causing serious inconvenience to the public, and the new library was open in all departments on Monday, June 1.

BEST BOOKS OF 1895 FOR A VILLAGE LIBRARY.

MADE up by combining the votes of 15 librarians selected as expert judges of books, revised by M. S. Cutler, after consultation with J. N. Larned, and accepted at the Syracuse meeting of the New York State Library Association, May 30, 1896.

Books of reference.

- 1 Leypoldt, Mrs. A. H., and Iles, George. List of books for girls and women and their clubs. Lib. Bur., \$1.
- 2 Willsey, J. H., comp. Harper's book of facts. Harper, \$8.

Religion.

- 3 Balfour, A. J. Foundations of belief. Longmans, \$2.

Alden's "Study of death" and Le Roy Beaulieu's "Israel among the nations" are suggested as alternates for a library where it is thought Balfour would not find readers.

Social science.

- 4 Brooks, Noah. How the republic is governed. Scribner, 75 c.
- 5 Shaw, Albert. Municipal government in Continental Europe. Century, \$2.
- 6 ——— Municipal government in Great Britain. Century, \$2.
Mr. Larned would leave out Shaw's books for a small library, and would add instead in Useful arts Mason's "Origins of invention" and Shaler's "Domesticated animals."
- 7 Wright, C. D. Industrial evolution of the United States. (Chautauqua.) Flood, \$1.

Education.

- 8 Martin, G. H. Evolution of the Massachusetts public school system. (Internat. educ. ser.) Appleton, \$1.50.

9. Wiggins, Mrs. K. D., and Smith, N. A. Froebel's gifts. (The republic of childhood, v. 1.) Houghton, \$1.

Folk-lore and fairy-tales.

- 10 Harris, J. C. Mr. Rabbit at home. Houghton, \$2.
- 11 Lang, Andrew. My own fairy-book. Longmans, \$2.

Natural science.

- 12 Clodd, Edward. Story of primitive man. (Lib. of useful stories.) Appleton, 40c.
- 13 Lowell, Percival. Mars. Houghton, \$2.50.
- 14 Scudder, S. H. Frail children of the air. Houghton, \$1.50.
- 15 Wright, M. O. Birdcraft. Macmillan, \$3.

Useful arts.

- 16 Atkinson, Philip. Electricity for everybody. Century, \$1.50.
See note under Social science.

Music.

- 17 Guerber, H. A. Stories of the Wagner operas. Dodd, \$1.50.

Amusements and sports.

- 18 Porter, L. H. Cycling for health and pleasure. Dodd, \$1.

Fiction.

- 19 Barlow, Jane. Strangers at Lisconnel. Dodd, \$1.25.
- 20 Burnham, Mrs. C. L. The wise woman. Houghton, \$1.25.
- 21 Clemens, S. L. Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson. Am. Pub. Co., \$2.50.
- 22 Coffin, C. C. Daughters of the revolution and their times. Houghton, \$1.50.
- 23 Crawford, F. M. The Ralstons. 2 v. Macmillan, \$2.
- 24 Davis, R. H. Princess Aline. Harper, \$1.25.
- 25 Grahame, Kenneth. The golden age. Stone, \$1.25.
- 26 Jewett, S. O. Life of Nancy. Houghton, \$1.25.
- 27 Maartens, Maarten, pseud. My lady Nobody. Harper, \$1.50.
- 28 Maclaren, Ian, pseud. Days of auld lang syne. Dodd, \$1.25.
- 29 Parker, Gilbert. When Valmond came to Pontiac. Stone, \$1.50.
- 30 Smith, F. H. Gentleman vagabond and some others. Houghton, \$1.25.
- 31 Stockton, F. R. Adventures of Captain Horn. Scribner, \$1.50.
- 32 Ward, Mrs. E. S. P. A singular life. Houghton, \$1.25.
- 33 Weyman, S. J. From the memoirs of a minister of France. Longmans, \$1.25.
- 34 ——— Red cockade. Harper, \$1.50.
- 35 Wiggins, Mrs. K. D. Village watch-tower. Houghton, \$1.
- 36 Zangwill, Israel. The master. Harper, \$1.75.

Juvenile.

- 37 Brown, H. D. Little Miss Phoebe Gay. Houghton, \$1.
- 38 Henty, G. A. Knight of the white cross. Scribner, \$1.50, *or*, Through Russian snows. Scribner, \$1.50, *or*, Tiger of Mysore. Scribner, \$1.50.
- 39 Kipling, Rudyard. Second jungle book. Century, \$1.50.
- 40 Lang, Andrew. Red true story-book. Longmans, \$2.
- 41 Munroe, Kirk. At war with Pontiac. Scribner, \$1.25.
- 42 Thaxter, Mrs. Celia. Stories and poems for children. Houghton, \$1.50.

Poetry.

- 43 Stedman, E. C. Victorian anthology, 1837-1895. Houghton, \$2.50.

Other literature.

- 44 Van Dyke, Henry. Little rivers. Scribner, \$2.

Description and travel.

- 45 Bourget, Paul. Outre-mer. Scribner, \$1.75.
- 46 Davis, R. H. About Paris. Harper, \$1.25.
- 47 Hapgood, I. F. Russian rambles. Houghton, \$1.50.
- 48 King, Grace. New Orleans, the place and the people. Macmillan, \$2.50.
- 49 Norman, Henry. Peoples and politics of the far East. Scribner, \$4.
- 50 Ralph, Julian. Dixie. Harper, \$2.50.
- 51 Remington, Frederick. Pony tracks. Harper, \$3.
- 52 Stevenson, R. L. Amateur emigrant from the Clyde to Sandy Hook. Stone, \$1.25.
- 53 Vincent, Frank. Actual Africa. Appleton, \$5.

Biography.

- 54 Arnold, Matthew. Letters of Matthew Arnold, 1848-1888. 2 v. Macmillan, \$3.
- 55 Sherman, John. Recollections of 40 years in the house, senate, and cabinet. 2 v. Werner Co., \$7.50.
- 56 Stevenson, R. L. Vailima letters. 2 v. Stone & Kimball, \$2.25.

European history.

- 57 Baird, H. M. Huguenots and the revocation of the edict of Nantes. 2 v. Scribner, \$7.50.
- 58 Greene, F. D. Armenian crisis in Turkey. Putnam, \$1.
The new edition, under title "The rule of the Turk," should be bought now.
- 59 Latimer, Mrs. E. W. Europe in Africa in the 19th century. McClurg, \$2.50.

American history.

- 60 Grinnell, G. B. Story of the Indians. (Story of the West ser.) Appleton, \$1.50.
- 61 Lodge, H. C., and Roosevelt, Theodore. Hero tales from American history. Century, \$1.50.
- 62 Walker, F. A. Making of the nation, 1783-1817. (American hist. ser.) Scribner, \$1.25.

AN AUSTRALASIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

AN Intercolonial Librarians' Conference was held in Melbourne, Australia, from April 21-25, for the purpose of forming a permanent library organization. The conference opened on April 21, in the National Gallery, about 80 librarians, representing the principal cities and towns of Australasia, being present.

The aims of the members were fully set forth in the opening address of Sir John Madden, chief justice, who acted as presiding officer of the conference. He spoke of the vast increase of literature and said that organization was one of the most essential needs in library work. The first librarians' conference designed to meet this need was held in America at New York in 1853. 20 years later a similar gathering was convened at Philadelphia, and in 1877 a librarians' conference was held in London. Both the latter had done much good, having led to the establishment of librarians' societies, each containing 500 members, which issued monthly periodicals wherein matters of interest to those who conducted libraries were discussed. In 1894 Dr. Leeper, the master of Trinity College, Melbourne, was struck by the fact that in the group of seven Australasian colonies—the people of which from the earliest period of settlement had endowed libraries in their respective territories for free public use—there might be some good done by imitating the examples set in America and England, especially as not less than 2,000,000 volumes had been gathered together within their limits. This conference was the outcome of Dr. Leeper's suggestion, the idea having been taken up by the trustees of the Melbourne Public Library and a committee of 40 to 50 ladies and gentlemen.

Governor Brassey then made a short speech, expressing his warm interest in the proposed association, and after a vote of thanks to Sir John Madden had been passed the assembly adjourned to a *conversazione* which was attended by about 500 persons, including Governor and Lady Brassey, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Bishops of Melbourne and Northern Queensland, and members of the government ministry. Much of the time of the members was given up to sight-seeing and entertainment. On April 24 they visited the Parliament-Houses and were shown over the Parliament, any library by Mr. Church, the librarian. They were then received by Governor and Lady Brassey at the Government House, where Lord Brassey's fine collections of books and pictures were viewed with interest. A reception at the town hall and a visit to the Melbourne Athenæum followed.

At 3 p.m. a meeting was held in the town hall, about 60 persons being present. Dr. Leeper presided and papers were read on "The book trade in Australia," by A. Melville, "The Public Lending Library of Victoria," by Dr. Bride, and "Fiction in public libraries," by Dr. J. P. Wilson. Each paper was informally discussed.

The final session of the conference was held in the town hall at 8 p.m., when Chief Justice Madden took the chair. The object of the meeting was to adopt a constitution for a permanent conference. Dr. Leeper read and explained the effect of the proposed constitution, which was then discussed clause by clause. It was decided that the association be called the Library Association of Australasia, and that its first annual meeting be held in Sydney. The following officers were elected for the current half year: President, Hon. Dr. Morton; Vice-presidents, Chief Justice Way, Sir James Agnew, Sir George Verdon, Sir Samuel Griffith, Sir James Lee Steere, and the president of the Wellington Public Library; Honorary secretary, H. C. L. Anderson, chief librarian of the New South Wales Public Library, Sydney; Honorary treasurer, Professor MacCallum.

CO-OPERATIVE CATALOGING OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

The following circular has been issued by the Royal Society of London to the delegates of the various nations, now numbering about 30, who have been appointed to attend the International Conference on an international catalog of scientific literature, to be held in London in July. It will be noted that the society proposes to restrict the catalog to "branches of pure science," excluding applied sciences:

"In anticipation of the forthcoming International Conference to consider the preparation of a catalog of scientific literature by international co-operation, we are directed to address to you the following:

"It is proposed that the conference shall be held at the rooms of the Royal Society, Burlington House, London, beginning on Tuesday, July 14, 1896, at 11 a.m.

"One of the earliest acts of this first meeting will be to appoint an organizing committee to determine the mode of procedure (including the language or languages to be used at the conference), the course of business, and the way in which votes shall be recorded on occasions when it will be necessary to have recourse to formal voting.

"The committee of the Royal Society hopes to be in a position to bring definite proposals before the conference with regard to its main work. Meanwhile, we are directed to submit to your consideration the following provisional suggestions, and to invite remarks from you upon them:

"1. That the proposed International authors and subject catalog of scientific literature shall be restricted, in the first instance, to branches of pure science, such as mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, geology, zoölogy, botany, physiology, and anthropology, to the exclusion of applied sciences, such as engineering, medicine, and the like; the determination of the distinction between pure and applied science being left to the conference.

"2. That in such an International catalog of science all definite contributions to pure sci-

ence shall be thoroughly indexed, whether occurring in books, memoirs, etc., treating of pure science, or in those devoted to applied or practical science—in other words, that the catalog shall not be confined to papers published in certain periodicals, or to books of a certain category.

"3. That with regard to the form of the said catalog:

"(a) There shall be a first issue of authors' titles, subject-matter, etc., in the form of *slips* or *cards*, which shall be distributed as speedily and as frequently as possible to subscribers generally.

"(b) That a further issue in book form, in a state for use as a permanent work of reference, shall take place at such intervals as may be determined on, parts corresponding to the several sciences being, if found desirable, published separately.

"4. That, in order to secure the preparation and publication of such an International catalog, a central bureau shall be established under the control of an International Council.

"5. That the whole of the catalog shall be prepared and issued subject to the authority of the International Council, and that any particular undertakings which may be allotted to particular countries, institutions, or persons shall be subsidiary to the work of the central bureau and subject to its control.

"6. That the cost of preparing and publishing the said slip- and book-catalogs at the central bureau during the years 1900-1904, in so far as these are not met by sales, shall be provided for by means of a guarantee fund, and that application be made to governments, learned societies, institutions, and individuals throughout the world, to assist in establishing such a fund.

"The conference will also have to take into consideration the following matters among others:

"(a) Supposing that a plan of a central bureau is adopted, where shall the bureau be placed?

"(b) The mode of appointment and organization of the International Council in charge of the bureau.

"(c) The language or languages to be adopted for the catalog.

"(d) The system of classification to be adopted in the subject index. It is suggested that the decimal system of Dewey may be so amended as to be worthy of adoption.

"There is necessarily the greatest difficulty in estimating the cost of the work in advance, or in forming an opinion as to the extent to which such an enterprise will be self-supporting. It will, probably, therefore, be best to raise a guarantee fund covering a period not less than five years, within which period it will undoubtedly be possible to determine the cost of the enterprise. The annual sum to be thus secured may be approximately estimated at £10,000.

"M. FOSTER, *Secretary, R.S.*

"RAYLEIGH, *Secretary, R.S.*

"E. FRANKLAND, *For. Sec., R.S.*"

TRAVELLING LIBRARIES FOR PHILADELPHIA.

THE trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia recently decided that a development of the travelling library system, as inaugurated in New York, Wisconsin, and other states, would be a valuable feature of the free library system in Philadelphia. They have, therefore, just established a travelling library organization which will first meet the wants of the different localities within the city limits and will then be extended, if possible, to cover the state. For this purpose several complete libraries have been purchased, comprising the books which were selected by the New York State Library and are included in its different catalogs. Already residents of some 15 or 16 different districts have asked for the privileges of the libraries, and it is hoped that by September at the latest 10 or 12 localities will be supplied. It is proposed that the system, both for the city and the state, shall be managed by the board of trustees of the Free Library, but all expenses connected with it are to be provided from an independent fund, as the city moneys, of course, are not applicable to that purpose. The localities first provided with books will be the various Western Union and American District Telegraph stations and several firemen's depots; four libraries have also been promised to the four principal stations of the Pennsylvania Railroad within the city limits. The Civic Club, of Philadelphia has agreed to co-operate with the Free Library, and the work that they had started in this line to meet the wants of these readers has been entirely handed over to the new organization, while Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, the president of the Civic Club, and a committee of that body have been appointed to carry on the work in union with the library. The state work will soon cover several localities in Clearfield county, where two or three of the corporations having large coal interests have agreed, in return for the privileges of the libraries, to maintain reading-rooms and provide a librarian for each. In order that the work may be concentrated in its results, the librarians of Pittsburgh favor throwing in their work with the Philadelphia end of the system. The matter has been pleasantly spoken of by the Pittsburgh press, and Mr. Anderson, of the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library, and Mr. Stevenson, of the Allegheny Carnegie Library, are very anxious to co-operate. If this system can be developed during the remainder of the present year, an application will be made to the coming session of the Pennsylvania legislature for a state grant for the development of the work on the principles followed in other states.

At the forthcoming A. L. A. Conference at Cleveland this subject has been put upon the program, and Mr. Montgomery, of the Wagner Institute of Science and a trustee of the Free Library, and Mr. Thomson, librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia, have been appointed to get together all the facts and statistics necessary to found a discussion.

MEANS OF POPULARIZING THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE report of the Examining committee of the Boston Public Library, in the 40th (1895) annual report of the library, contains some interesting suggestions as to advertising the library and making its privileges and facilities more generally known. The various delivery stations and branches should, in the opinion of the committee, be advertised more conspicuously than at present. "If at all railway stations, at all stations of the electric cars, at all branch post-offices, and at all school-houses a conspicuous notice might be posted stating where the nearest branch or delivery station of the Public Library may be found, a decided increase in the use and efficiency of such branches and stations might be expected."

Bringing the contents of the library more effectively to public attention is also desirable. In effecting this "the special subject lists have proved of great value, especially to students, and their publication should be continued within the limits of a wise discretion as to subjects and expense. The committee suggest that these lists be made more generally available within the library by the placing of distinctively bound copies of them upon the tables within easy reach of every reader. The later bulletins issued have been mainly devoted to lists of books in the library upon special topics—a departure from the original purpose of the bulletin, which was to publish occasional lists of the new books added to the library. It seems to the committee desirable to discontinue the present bulletin, and substitute for it a weekly classified list of new additions. This should include short titles with little bibliographical detail, and wherever necessary and practicable the addition of a line indicating the character and scope of the book. It appears from the limited sale of the bulletin in the past, though placed at a merely nominal price, that it reaches but a small number of people, and that no information about the books which interest them reaches the large mass of people who do not visit the library. It is thought that the free distribution of the lists of new books through the schools might be serviceable, and that an experiment in this direction might wisely be tried.

"In order to increase the popular use of the library the committee advise the publication, from time to time, or at regular intervals, of articles in the daily or Sunday newspapers, relating to the additions made to the library, and to the popular sources of information it contains upon the subjects which, for the time being, are uppermost in the public mind, the purpose being to suggest attractive and useful books to that portion of the public which seldom visits the library, and stimulate the reading of useful and instructive books of a popular and interesting character. Such information in the columns of a newspaper would also serve the broader purpose of suggestive aid to many other libraries in the Commonwealth."

POLITICS IN THE TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE difficulties over the appointment of a librarian to the Tacoma (Wash.) Public Library, previously noted in the JOURNAL, have been finally concluded. Mr. W. Curtis Taylor, the former librarian, has given up the contest, and intends, it is understood, taking up his residence in Philadelphia. Mr. Herbert Bashford, the new librarian, while a political appointee, has had library experience, having for a time been in charge of the Mercantile Library, the nucleus of the present Public Library.

In a recent interview in a Tacoma paper, Mr. Taylor gives some sound views as to the effect of politics on libraries. He says: "Universal experience has shown that whenever a public library comes to be regarded as a 'plum' for the reward, not of efficient library service, but of efficient political service, it always declines.

"Here it is most important not to be misunderstood. This is not a question of the relative merits of those holding positions. Succeeding librarians might, if let alone, be better qualified for the place than the one who last filled it, but the trouble is the heart is taken out of such work as soon as the incumbent is brought under the political yoke. If a librarian, no matter how worthy, is only installed as one of many appointees till the next turn of the machine, or, using the lingo of the politician, to 'hold down a job,' what becomes of ambitious, patient upbuilding? Scholarly and painstaking enthusiasm and the spirit of general helpfulness dwindle before the terrors of the 'next election.' The better the librarian the more is he disqualified for holding his own in so foreign a field.

"Again, in a library too limited in funds to have a complete corps of assistants, its chief is expected, besides having ability for a business of unusual detail, to have the contents of the books at his finger ends. To expect a fresh incumbent to spring into such proficiency at the pleasure of every new mayor is humorously absurd."

A NEW INDEX TO PERIODICALS.

THE Cleveland Public Library has issued a prospectus of a monthly index to periodicals, which it is planned to publish from that library, provided a sufficient number of subscriptions are secured. It will include 50 or more of the leading periodicals, selected from a consensus of opinions of those subscribers sending in lists in time for consideration, and it is hoped to issue each number, except the last, not later than the 10th of each month.

"The index will be on the plan of a dictionary catalog, including in one alphabetic series author, subject, and title, if the title is noteworthy. Each article will receive the same consideration as that given a book in dictionary cataloging. The size and style of the page and the plan of the work will be similar to that of the Cleveland Public Library catalog. The

index for 1896 will begin with the June number, and each successive number until November will be cumulative, that is, each number will include in one alphabetic series all the entries of the previous numbers. The December issue will be made an annual number, will include the entries in the previous issues, will index the periodicals for December, and also for January to May inclusive, thus making it a complete index for the year 1896 for the periodicals included. This annual number will be printed on no. 1 paper, and will be furnished to all subscribers in cloth binding without extra charge. If the index meets with sufficient support to warrant its continuance, the issues hereafter will be made cumulative from January to December of each year."

The price of the index will vary according to the number of subscriptions received. If there are but 200 subscribers, it will be \$10 per year; if 250, it will be \$8; if 300, \$7, and if 400, \$5. Subscriptions are conditional upon the completion of the volume for the year, and are payable after the issue of the sixth monthly number of the index.

THE L. B. PRINTED CATALOG CARDS.

THE following circular has been issued by the Library Bureau from Boston:

"Our service of printed catalog cards for current literature has now continued for two and one-half years, and the experiment, which until we took the matter up had failed whenever tried, is now an assured fact.

"One condition seriously impairs our service to our library subscribers, and that is the feeling of the publishers toward us. They cannot refrain from classing us with the balance of their 'free list,' and this has a tendency (1) to delay their service to us, so that with only the greatest difficulty do we get reasonable promptness, and (2) to restrict their supply to us so that we do not get as many books as we ought.

"We do not wish our name connected with any project in the interest of the public libraries of the country unless it is in every way a thorough success, and therefore we have called the attention of the Publishing Section of the American Library Association to this work. We believe that should we transfer to them the actual responsibility for this co-operative work the publishers would at once put themselves into closer connection with them than with us, and the difficulties we have enumerated above would be for the most part, if not entirely, removed.

"The probability is that the Publishing Section would be able to arrange to have the cataloging done at the Library School in Albany, under the supervision of an expert cataloger, responsible to the section, so as to secure promptness in the work. Cataloging done under these conditions, and with the necessary bibliographical tools at hand, could be more thorough than has been possible for this office to furnish."

American Library Association.

President: J. C. Dana, Public Library, Denver, Col.

Secretary: H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Acting Treasurer: E. L. Anderson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, Pa.

18th Conference, Cleveland, O., Sept. 1-4, 1896.

EIGHTEENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE,
CLEVELAND, OHIO, SEPT. 1-4, 1896.

PRELIMINARY NOTES.

TUESDAY, September 1. — *Afternoon.* — Inspection of Cleveland libraries.

Evening. — *First session.* Hollenden Hotel. No formal program. Members will renew old and make new acquaintances. Preparations for the work of the conference. Rooms will be decorated with souvenirs of previous meetings. There will be an exhibit of library appliances.

WEDNESDAY, September 2, 9 a.m. — *Second session.* — President's address — John Cotton Dana, librarian Public Library, Denver, Colo. Further arrangements for this session cannot be definitely announced at this time. The program will, however, include an historical sketch of the A. L. A. and its work, reports of library work in Boston, New York, Chicago, and Washington, and a general discussion of needs and opportunities. Messrs. Winsor, Putnam, Hild, Billings, Green, Crandall, and others have been invited to address the conference.

2:30 p.m. — *Third session.* — Reports: Executive board: Meetings; proposed European trip; library primer. Treasurer: Report; necrology. Standing committees.

Sections.
Readers' aids and guides — Mr. G. Iles, New York City.

Gifts and bequests — Miss C. M. Hewins, librarian Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

Library exhibit at the Atlanta Exposition — Miss Alice B. Kroeger, librarian Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

Paper — Library exhibitions of photographs and engravings — C. A. Cutter, librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

It is proposed to have reports, as far as possible, printed and placed in members' hands before the conference. An opportunity will be given for the discussion of each.

Evening. — Reception by the Rowfant Club.

THURSDAY, September 3, 9 a.m. — *Fourth session.*

Paper — Advertising a library — Miss L. E. Stearns, supt. circulating department Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.

Paper — Library editions of popular fiction. — C. R. Dudley, librarian City Library, Denver, Colo.

10:30. — Joint meeting of the A. L. A. and the Trustees' Section. Mr. C. C. Soule, president of the Trustees' Section, will preside. Many prominent library trustees have promised to be present. Mr. F. M. Crunden, librarian St. Louis Public (Free) Library, will address the meeting on behalf of librarians.

Afternoon. — *Fifth session.* — Cleveland afternoon, in charge of local committee. Visit to the new Hatch Library of Adelbert College, the Woodland Branch and the Miles Park Branch of the Cleveland Public Library. Light refreshments will be served at the Miles Park Branch.

8 p.m. — *Sixth session.* — Report of the committee on the A. L. A. catalog supplement, Miss Mary L. Cutler, vice-director New York State Library School, chairman. Discussion of a selected list of books.

FRIDAY, September 4, 9 a.m. — *Seventh session.* Paper — Relation of the bookseller to the librarian — Almond Burtch, of the library department of A. C. McClurg & Co.

Paper — "Do's" — Miss Ellen M. Chandler, of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Library. This will call to mind the "Don'ts," presented by Miss Chandler at the Lake Placid Conference.

From 10 to 12:30 will be devoted especially to matters of interest to young and inexperienced librarians. Those to whom subjects have been assigned will endeavor to answer all questions asked them.

Library furniture, fixtures, and appliances — C. A. Cutter, librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

Selection of books: sources of information, adaptation of books to community, class proportion — Miss Caroline M. Hewins, librarian Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

Reading-room and periodicals — Miss Hannah P. James, librarian Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barré, Pa.

Accessioning, classifying, and cataloging — W. I. Fletcher, librarian Amherst College, Amherst, Mass.

Preparing books for issue, and Charging systems — Frank P. Hill, librarian Public Library, Newark, N. J.

Reference books and reference work — S. S. Green, librarian Public Library, Worcester, Mass.

The librarian's annual report — Miss Caroline H. Garland, librarian Public Library, Dover, N. H.

2:30 — *Eighth session* — Election of officers; reports of special committees; meetings of sections and state associations.

Evening — Annual A. L. A. dinner. Judge Hutchins, president of the board of trustees of the Cleveland Public Library, will preside.

At midnight Friday night the party will leave by steamer for Detroit. Breakfast will be furnished by the steamship company at 50 cents each. The Detroit people have invited the A.

L. A. to a ride over the city, and lunch at the pavilion in the park. At 3 p.m. the party will take the Star Line boat for Grande Pointe, through the St. Clair Flats; fare not to exceed 50 cents each. Dinner at the Grande Pointe Club-house as guests of the club, and entertainment in the evening until the arrival of the Mackinaw steamer.

TUESDAY, September 8. — *Ninth and final session*, Mackinaw. Lecture, The story of Mackinaw—Reuben G. Thwaites, secretary Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison, Wis. Unfinished business.

With the exception of the first evening session, the Cleveland meeting will be held in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce.

One of the topics for discussion at the conference, although its place on the program is not definitely announced, will be the subject of travelling libraries and their use as a development of a city library's work, to be presented by Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Thomson, of Philadelphia.

The Hollenden Hotel has been selected as headquarters. Rates, \$3 per day. Rooms may be engaged in advance at this hotel, or at \$2 at the Forest City Hotel and other hotels convenient to place of meeting, or in good boarding-houses for from \$1 to \$1.50 per day, by writing to W. H. Brett, librarian Cleveland Public Library, chairman of the local committee.

One and a third fare for the round trip, on the certificate plan, will be granted on all roads. Full information as to routes and rates will be given later.

For the post-conference trip exceedingly low rates have been secured. From Cleveland to Mackinaw and return, \$13. From Detroit to Mackinaw and return, \$10. One way rate from Cleveland to Mackinaw, \$8. One way rate from Detroit to Mackinaw, \$6. These figures include meals and berths on the steamer both ways. Stop-over allowed at Detroit. Return ticket good at any time. Hotel expenses on shore at Mackinaw will be \$3 per day.

To secure these very low rates it will be necessary to guarantee a certain number. All members who intend going on the post-conference trip should immediately notify Mr. W. H. Brett, Cleveland, O., or the secretary, H. L. Elmendorf, St. Joseph, Mo.

Final program, with itinerary and definite rates, will be published later.

J. C. DANA, *President*, }
H. L. ELMENDORF, *Sec.* } *Program Committee.*

TO EASTERN LIBRARIANS.

LIBRARIANS and others who expect to attend the A. L. A. Conference, and wish to join the party from New York, are requested to send their names as soon as possible to the recorder, that arrangements may be made in ample season for the best route, parlor-car accommodations, and lowest rates. Those who do not pass through New York can arrange to join the party at Buffalo. "Come one, come all."

C. ALEX. NELSON, *Recorder.*

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, }
NEW YORK. }

PETITION TO THE N. E. A.

THE following petition, signed by the members of the executive board, will be presented to the National Educational Association at its meeting in Buffalo, and the matter of a closer union between the A. L. A. and the N. E. A. will be discussed at the Cleveland Conference:

"To the Honorable Board of Directors of the National Education Association.

"GENTLEMEN: The American Library Association respectfully urges you to take favorable action on the petition which has been presented to you by certain teachers, asking you to establish a school library section of the National Educational Association.

"Only by the closest co-operation between teachers and librarians can the work of arousing the interest of children in books and reading, and inducing them to read the books best fitted for them, be accomplished. Teachers and librarians are natural allies, and we believe that the founding of the section asked for will be a great help in the extension of the librarian's field into the school-room, and of the teacher's field into the library.

"Should the section be organized, we request that delegates be appointed to confer with the librarians at the annual meeting of the A. L. A. in Cleveland, September 1-4, 1896."

PUBLISHING SECTION.

THE executive board of the A. L. A. Publishing Section met at the Park Avenue Hotel, New York, Friday, Dec. 12, 1895, all members being present. No meeting of the section having been held at the Denver Conference of the association and no new election having taken place, the board considered that the terms of its members continued until a new election should be held.

The minutes of the last meeting, Dec. 3, 1894, were approved.

Voted, That the minutes of the executive board be regularly printed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for the information of members of the section and others interested.

Voted, That application be made to the A. L. A. Council (in accordance with a vote passed at the last meeting), requesting it to authorize the trustees of the endowment fund to pay over to the Publishing Section the income of that fund up to \$1000, to be used as a working capital to enable the section to carry on the work committed to it.

The secretary read a letter from the Library Bureau in regard to the terms on which it could afford to handle the section's publications.

Voted, That the terms proposed, viz., a commission of 15 % on sales in addition to the expense of distribution (postage or express), be agreed to.

The secretary reported in regard to the A. L. A. Index that 37 copies had been sold in the year ending Aug. 1, 1895, netting \$131.60, of which \$112.04 had been paid over to the editor in accordance with the agreement with him.

Voted, That a supplement to the A. L. A. Index be prepared for publication in 1897, and that, if advance subscriptions warrant, it be consolidated with the material of the previous volume.

Voted, That Mr. Fletcher be requested to proceed with the compilation of this supplement.

In regard to "Reading for the young," the secretary reported that there still existed a steady demand for a few copies, 88 having been sold in the last 12 months, and 3589 in all since publication, in Oct., 1890. The returns had covered all expenses of publication except \$111.39. Mr. Fletcher reported that a supplement to "Reading for the young," compiled by Miss Sargent, was in the printer's hands.

Voted, To page the supplement continuously with the original and to include in it a subject index to the whole; to issue it in two forms, by itself and bound with the original; to invite advance subscriptions for the complete form; and to print as a first edition 1000 copies of the separate supplement and 250 copies of the complete form, in addition to the number subscribed for in advance; circulars to be sent out later when the work is ready for the press and the price can be determined.

Voted, That the property of the section in stock and plates be kept insured, the amount of insurance to be at the treasurer's discretion.

The treasurer reported that the "List of subject headings" prepared by a committee of the Library Association had been printed and copies distributed to members and for sale in October; 500 copies had been printed at an expense of about \$460.

Voted, That the publications of the section be offered to actual students in library schools and training classes at half the list prices if bought for their own use.

Voted, That a complete list of the publications of the section be printed in connection with each new publication issued, so far as practicable.

The treasurer was directed to arrange for the permanent advertisement of the section's publications in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* and *Publishers' Weekly*, provided suitable special terms could be obtained, not to exceed \$50 a year.

The treasurer and Mr. Iles reported on the "List of books for girls and women" that an edition of 2000 copies in the small form in separate parts and of 3000 copies in the large form complete in one volume had been lately issued, and that initial sales had been encouraging. The total expense of printing, binding, etc., had been \$1983.42. Mr. Iles furnished gratis for this publication the ms., editorial work, press copies, and advertising, and advanced the money to meet the cost of production, this to be repaid to him quarterly from the proceeds of sales, the surplus, if any, to belong to the Publishing Section. The expense of the press copies, estimated at \$174.74, is to be deducted from the amount stated above, leaving \$1808.68 to be repaid to Mr. Iles as the section is able.

Resolved, That the Publishing Section records its cordial appreciation and earnest thanks to its associate, Mr. George Iles, for his most generous service to the American Library Association and to all readers of books in both editing and providing for the large expense of publication of the evaluated "List of books for women and girls," recently issued through the Publishing Section, and that this minute be specifically reported at the next conference of the American Library Association.

It was voted to accept Mr. Iles's offer to furnish the ms. of two manuals of books on Fine arts and Music, to be prepared and annotated by Mr. Russell Sturgis and Mr. H. E. Krehbiel respectively, and to be edited by Mr. Iles, and the treasurer was authorized to expend a sum not exceeding \$500 for the plates of these manuals, this to cover plates in small size and, if possible, in large size, 1000 copies small and 250 large to be printed.

Voted, To authorize the treasurer to provide for printing lists on specific subjects from the "List of books for girls and women" for which there may be a sufficient demand to cover the cost.

The treasurer presented from Miss C. M. Hewins the ms. of a "Brief list of children's books," prepared in accordance with a vote passed at the last meeting. The ms. was accepted subject to the author's revision, and the secretary was instructed to request her to add notes, descriptive, critical, and comparative, and to allow the members of the executive board and others, at her discretion, to see galley proofs of the list when put into print. The list will be published in the small form and sold at 10 cents a copy, with a liberal discount on sales in quantity.

The treasurer reported that in his opinion the work of the Publishing Section could be much simplified by giving up the plan of membership and advance subscriptions from members, which had never yielded more than a scanty sum for the purposes of the section, and depending instead for capital on loans or grants from the endowment fund, the executive board to be appointed or elected annually by the Library Association; and after discussion it was voted that it is the sense of the executive board that the membership feature be dropped from the constitution of the Publishing Section and that in the call for the next meeting of the section notice of the proposed change be given.

The treasurer was requested to make with the Library Bureau an agreement under which all work done for the Publishing Section by the bureau or through its agency should be charged at net cost to the bureau plus a commission of 10%, a statement of limit of cost being furnished on previous estimate.

Mr. Bowker was appointed a committee to confer with the superintendent of documents on the publication of a manual treating of the use of government publications.

Mr. Bowker submitted the suggestion of Miss Alice B. Kroeger, librarian of the Drexel Institute, for a manual of instruction in the use of

reference-books that could be used in schools and colleges. Miss Kroeger was invited to submit the manuscript with fuller information concerning her plan.

Adjourned.

THE executive board met in Northampton at the Forbes Library, June 10, 1896; present, Messrs. Dewey, Fletcher, Bowker, and Lane.

Voted, To recommend to the Publishing Section at its next regular meeting that its present organization be discontinued and its constitution abolished, and that an amendment be proposed to the constitution of the A. L. A., namely: to insert a new section between §§ 15 and 16 substantially as follows:

"16. *Publishing Section*. The Publishing Section shall consist of five members appointed by the executive board for terms of not more than three years. Its object shall be to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve.

"The section shall annually appoint from its own number a chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

"No moneys shall be paid by the treasurer except with the written approval of three other members of the section, and no work shall be undertaken except by vote of a majority of the whole board.

"The section shall report in writing at each annual meeting of the A. L. A."*

The treasurer reported on the sales of the "List of subject headings" and the "List of books for girls and women."

A letter from Mr. Iles was read stating that he expected to have the ms. of bibliographies of music and the other fine arts by Messrs. Krehbiel and Sturgis respectively ready to print in the fall. The preparation of these bibliographies Mr. Iles provides for at his own expense. The treasurer was instructed to obtain and submit to the board estimates of the expense of these publications in accordance with the vote at the last meeting.

The treasurer reported progress in the "Supplement to reading for the young," now all in type with the exception of the index, and the price of the book when published was decided upon.

The treasurer reported that he had been unable to make with the Library Bureau the arrangement in regard to estimates recommended at the last meeting, and it was the sense of the board that the treasurer should therefore in general obtain competitive estimates for work proposed.

The Massachusetts Library Club submitted its monthly fiction lists with a body of correspondence from subscribers and others in re-

gard to their usefulness. The club asked whether the Publishing Section would undertake the publication of the lists in case it should itself be unable on account of expense to continue to publish them after the current year.

Voted, That the section will be willing to assume the publication of the Massachusetts fiction lists provided the club will undertake to prepare them—for at least another year; the price to Massachusetts libraries and to members of the Massachusetts Library Club to be 25 cents a year, and to all others 50 cents.

Mr. Dewey presented a synopsis and specimen of the handbook on reference-books proposed by Miss Kroeger, of Philadelphia. Discussion followed upon the scope and character that such a work should have, and it was voted that Miss Kroeger be asked to submit for the examination of the board an elementary textbook designed to teach the use of reference-books.

Mr. Bowker reported informally on the material collected by Mr. Bunford Samuel, of Philadelphia, for an index of portraits, on which he had been at work for some years. The ms. was in good part ready for printing; it included about 40,000 portraits of about 22,000 individuals. Mr. Lane showed a sample of card prepared for co-operative indexing of portraits by Boston libraries, and at the suggestion of Mr. Bowker the subject was referred to Mr. Lane, who should examine Mr. Samuel's material and formulate a plan for preparing a portrait index for publication.

Mr. Lane reported that an index to architectural illustrations had been undertaken by the libraries of Boston and Cambridge working in co-operation, and that at some future time the material would probably be available for publication.

Voted, To authorize the treasurer to employ a bookkeeper or clerk at an expense not to exceed \$50 a year.

A communication was received from the Library Bureau of Boston stating that the bureau would be glad to turn over to the Publishing Section the responsibility of preparing the printed catalog cards for new books which for the last three years it has issued to subscribers. A number of letters from subscribers endorsing the plan and expressing opinions on the usefulness of the cards were also submitted.

The whole subject was discussed at length, but no final decision was reached.*

W: C. LANE, *Secretary*.

*It has been found in practice that very little advantage has been derived from the membership feature of the section as now organized, and that its accounts and management are complicated thereby. The work of the section is of equal interest to all members of the association and its board should be responsible to the association directly instead of to a limited and ill-defined portion of its members.

*Among the suggestions offered were the following: That the cataloging should be done at Albany or at the office of the *The Publishers' Weekly*; that the number of subscribers might be increased by offering to send in place of the full list of books cataloged a selected list of perhaps one-third or one-fourth as many; that the expense of the work might be somewhat diminished by printing only one form of card for each book, leaving the library to fill in the necessary title or editor references; that the expense of preparation might be very much lessened by omitting the classification marks and dictionary-catalog headings, but the letters from subscribers seemed to show that this change would materially lessen the value of the cards.

State Library Associations.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

President: J. C. Rowell, Librarian University of California, Berkeley.

Secretary: A. M. Jellison, Librarian Mechanics' Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE regular meeting of the Library Association of Central California, held at the Mechanics' Institute, May 8, 1896, was a "Stanford evening." President Rowell presided, and after despatching the business of the meeting introduced Professor George Kriehn, of Leland Stanford Jr. University, who read a scholarly paper on "The library of the British Museum." He gave a brief sketch of the development of libraries, showing how the Arabians first destroyed and afterward built up and cherished great collections of books. "The lesson is self-evident; no nation capable of civilization can do without books and libraries. The great Semitic religions begin with the intention to destroy them; they end by being themselves led captive by the gentle art of learning." He dwelt on the period of the monastic libraries, describing the great collections of manuscripts in England. The dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII. dispersed these collections all over the kingdom, and the greater part were lost or destroyed. "The library of the British Museum is essentially a modern institution, although most of its valuable manuscripts originally belonged to English monasteries, and yet with a single exception it has outstripped all of its older competitors." The nuclei of the British Museum were (1) the Sloane collection of 4000 mss. and 40,000 books, (2) the Cottonian collection, (3) the Harleian collection, (4) the Royal Library, founded by Henry VII., (5) the copyright law. The method of selecting the trustees and governing the library was shown, and the riches of the collection of prints and drawings as well as prints and manuscripts were described at length. The building and its arrangement, especially the superb reading-room, was described in detail, and a tribute paid to Pannizzi, "the greatest librarian the museum ever had." "What can we learn from the study of European libraries? The main object kept constantly in view by the British Museum is not so much to afford general information as to promote science and offer opportunities for original investigation. This is to my mind the grandest end of a library."

Mr. F. J. Teggart followed with a paper on "The literature of libraries — Bibliotheksweisen," in which he gave a comprehensive account of the bibliography of libraries in a bright, breezy style. He said, in conclusion: "The systematic avoiding of a concluding word on any of the minor details which have presented themselves for discussion seems to argue a fear on the part of librarians that were these elemen-

tary questions of administrative technique decided, there would be nothing left for librarians over which to disagree, or about which to write. It is time, I believe, that we left these internal affairs for a consideration of subjects of more vital importance to our various constituencies — the public at large."

The concluding paper was by Professor John M. Stillman, of Leland Stanford Jr. University, on "Some book corners of Boston." Professor Stillman deprecated talking on libraries to librarians, but gave an interesting and sympathetic account of the libraries of Boston, in which he showed more than a reader's knowledge and affection for the great collections in that city.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

THE association has issued a pamphlet handbook, giving the constitution, list of officers, and record of meetings and topics discussed since its organization in February, 1895.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: C. R. Dudley, City Library, Denver.

Secretary: John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

Treasurer: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. K. Stetson, Public Library, New Haven.

Secretary: Miss M. A. Richardson, Public Library, New London.

Treasurer: Mrs. F. W. Robinson, Otis Library, Norwich.

THE spring meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held on May 30 in the Young Men's Institute, New Haven, with Professor D. N. Camp, of New Britain, the senior vice-president, in the chair. Joseph L. French, superintendent of schools of New Haven and president of the Young Men's Institute, welcomed the association, Miss Angeline Scott, of the South Norwalk Public Library, assistant secretary, read the report of the last meeting, and A. Maxcy Hiller invited the association to visit the New Haven Public Library. After some discussion a vote was passed that the meetings of the association should hereafter not be held on holidays.

William C. Stone, of the Springfield City Library, read a paper on the evolution of that library, which dates back to 1796, and was made free in 1885. Its circulation increased from 40,000 to 154,000 the first year, and it now employs a librarian and 10 regular assistants, besides several high-school boys, receives \$21,000 from the city and \$2800 from the dog tax, and spends \$9000 annually for salaries and \$7000 for books.

Miss Anna G. Rockwell, of the New Britain Institute, read a witty and entertaining paper on an unpromising subject — the classification of government documents — saying that the system of arrangement was often to keep

those bound in sheep together, probably for the reason that sheep are usually kept in flocks. She spoke of the crowded condition of the documents in the state library and in Trinity College, and urged the importance of preserving small government pamphlets on subjects like birds' eggs or the diseases of the horse for the benefit of the reader with a hobby (whom the librarian loves more than the ninety-and-nine who do not stray from the paths of fiction) instead of destroying them to get them out of the way, as the wife of a town-clerk did with the Revolutionary records of a town near Hartford. The Government Printing Office, she concluded, is the only publishing house in the country which does not print bad books to sell.

She was followed by Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, librarian of the office of the superintendent of documents, Washington, who gave statistics of that office, which has been established about a year, has sent out 100,000 volumes to libraries, and has 200,000 in stock, including from 1000 to 2000 copies of some documents and a model library of 15,000 volumes classified and collated. On account of the system of publishing government documents in series and by numbers Miss Hasse believes that they should be kept by themselves, but if a library does not attempt to make a complete collection sets may be broken up and classified under subjects. After her paper was read the association voted to send a resolution to Senator Hale urging the passage of the public document bill which has gone through the House and is now awaiting the Senate amendments.

Miss Tessa L. Kelso, formerly of Los Angeles, now of New York, spoke of the influence of a library, referring to a paper published in the May LIBRARY JOURNAL, by C. K. Bolton, on the duty of a librarian as a citizen, and saying that the librarian is in many cases responsible for lack of interest felt by library trustees and lack of funds voted by towns and cities, that western libraries are much more important in the life of cities than eastern ones, that sums voted for them in the East seem insignificant in the West, and that if the sum allotted every year for a public library is less than half the appropriation for schools, something must be wrong. The librarian who cannot at once state the hobbies of every man or woman in his town has not fulfilled his or her duty. A public library should be a place where class distinctions are forgotten and where workmen and employers can meet on the common ground of a common interest in picture exhibitions or other shows, as they cannot in any church.

At the afternoon session Mr. King, of C. Scribner's Sons, described the model libraries, with annotated catalogs, prepared for country towns by that house in connection with others, and Jonathan Trumbull, of the Otis Library, Norwich, read with comments a list of books on Connecticut history soon to be published in the bulletin of that library. Mr. Walter Learned, trustee of New London Public Library, read a paper on the line of exclusion in public libraries, urging that the ethical purport

of stories should be taken into consideration, giving Dickens as an instance of an author who, although as in the story of "David Copperfield" he touches on the illicit relation of a man and woman, and in all his books glorifies the use of intoxicants, has a high ethical aim and pure point of view. Fashions change and books go out of date. Nobody asks now for books which were condemned 40 years ago, but it is unwise to put into general circulation books of the same class when everybody is talking about them. Girls from 15 to 20 read more than boys of the same age, and care more for the modern hysterical novel. The books that Pomona reads do not injure her, but her mistress, who scorns Dickens's optimism and Thackeray's kindly cynicism as out of date, and George Eliot as didactic, reads a worse class of fiction than the maid. Mr. Learned's advice to librarians and trustees as to buying novels is, "When in doubt, don't."

Miss Helen Sperry, formerly of Waterbury, now librarian of the Carnegie Library, Braddock, Pa., gave an interesting account of that library and of the social conditions of the town. After a discussion on bookbuying, a vote of thanks to the Young Men's Institute, to which a graceful response was made by the librarian, Miss Williams, and a resolution of sympathy for the secretary in a recent bereavement, the meeting adjourned to accept an invitation to meet in Branford or South Norwalk in September. — *Hartford (Ct.) Courant.*

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Thomas Nelson, Public Library, East St. Louis, Ill.

Secretary: Miss E. L. Moore, Withers Public Library, Bloomington.

Treasurer: P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Rollin A. Kautz, Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago, Ill.

IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.

President: J. W. Rich, State University Library, Iowa City.

Secretary: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Secretary: Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: C. K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline.

Secretary: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

Treasurer: Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

ON Wednesday, June 12, 1896, the Massachusetts Library Club met, by invitation of Mr. C. A. Cutter, at Northampton. The day opened with pouring rain; 34 members, however, left Boston by the Central Massachusetts Railroad, and others dropped in along the way, so that a good-sized delegation was greeted by Mr. Cutter, and sat down, still further recruited, to a bountiful lunch in the parlors of the First Church.

The rain, having laid the dust and cooled the air, considerably betook itself elsewhere, and we walked without discomfort to the Forbes Library, that, standing in a broad lawn, welcomed us to its light and cheerful rooms, looking out upon Mt. Holyoke. Here Miss Nina E. Browne, librarian of the Library Bureau, explained her charging system with practical illustrations from the apparatus there in use, and answered many questions as to its capabilities. The Rudolph book catalog, the modified accessions books, the books exposed for consultation, were also examined with interest. The party then returned to the First Church—and the secretary must here apologize to the club and its guests for this unnecessary, reduplicated walk, resulting from his lamentable ignorance of Northampton geography—where the meeting was called to order by Mr. Bolton at 3:35 p.m. About 115 were present.

Mr. Gardner M. Jones, chairman of the committee in charge of the Lists of Select Fiction, submitted the result of his inquiries into the usefulness of the lists. About 63 replies were received; four libraries based their purchases in this department of literature entirely on the lists, 37 did so in part, and 14, chiefly large libraries, did not, though nine made use of them in other ways; five found them useless. Titles appear in the lists from four to six weeks after the books are published, and 31 out of 43 libraries found this early enough to be of use. One librarian wrote that the list was of much use in enabling him to get books by new authors which he would otherwise have missed. Mr. Jones remarked that an index which he has kept of reviews of novels shows that a surprising number of novels fail to obtain mention in the most widely read literary journals. About 600 copies of the lists are sent out, one being sent free to every public library in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and 157 on subscription of 25 c. for 12 numbers.

After reading the report Mr. Jones suggested that some action was necessary as to the continuance of the lists after the issue of the first 12 numbers. The cost of these numbers has been paid in part from subscriptions, in part from gifts, but mainly from the surplus of the club. It could not continue to support the lists out of its income.

Mr. Lane remarked that there were three methods, at least, of continuing the lists, should the club think it desirable to continue them beyond 12 numbers: By subscription for each copy sent at a sufficient price; by publish-

ing the lists, not independently, but in literary and library journals; by turning over the publication and distribution to the Publishing Section—if the section should be willing to undertake it—the club paying only for the compilation. He moved to refer the matter of continuing the lists beyond 12 numbers to a committee consisting of the executive committee and the chairman and secretary of the fiction lists committee with full power to take such action as seemed to them wise. It was so voted.

The regular business was then interrupted in order that the club might listen to an account of the Home Culture Libraries by Mr. George W. Cable.

Mr. Cable said that these libraries were still in the experimental stage. The Home Culture Clubs will soon celebrate their tenth anniversary. The further they are from the centre the more they need help, as they cannot afford to buy the books recommended and are often remote from libraries. Last summer the monthly reports sent to each club by the general secretary were expanded into a magazine called *The Letter*, issued for an annual subscription and serving as a means of directing the clubs to good and systematized reading. "It was a pleasant experience to prove that the most uninformed people have a strong tendency to systematized reading. We at once found it an advantage to become lenders of books, choosing books of low price and light weight. We pay the postage to the first club, which must pay the postage to the next club, the last paying the postage to the general secretary. The annual subscriptions (50 c.) to *The Letter* help us to bear the expense; it is not a profitable scheme, but it reaches homes absolutely destitute of books and trains the members in systematic reading." It has been in operation about two months; there are about a dozen clubs and two or three times that number of books out.

Several members accepted Mr. Cable's invitation to visit the Home Culture Library, and became deeply interested in the details of the work.

Mr. F. W. Faxon presented a report from the committee appointed at the last meeting to investigate the feasibility of having a club-room in Boston, whereby it appeared that to hire an eligible room was entirely beyond the means of the club, and the only chance lay in making arrangements with some other club for joint use of a room. This was presented as a report of progress, and, no action being taken, the matter went over until the next meeting.

The president called attention to the desire of the Public Library at Wendell to obtain duplicates not wanted at other libraries. Mr. Smith, a trustee of the library, said that it had received state aid, but was still very small, and the town was able to supply but little money for the purchase of new books. They would be glad to receive duplicates, either as gifts or loans, and would pay expressage.

The club had already received a cordial invitation from Miss Hewins to visit Hartford on

Thursday morning. A like invitation was now offered by Mr. Fletcher on behalf of Amherst, and by Mr. Rice on behalf of Springfield.

The president announced that a representative from Charles Scribner's Sons was present and would be glad to meet any one who was interested in the model libraries which that house is putting on the market.

The subject for the day, "Co-operation among neighboring libraries in the acquisition and use of books," was then taken up.

Mr. Lane said that co-operation was possible either between two libraries equally public and free, or between a free public and a proprietary library. In the former case, which was exemplified in Northampton, in Chicago, and in New York, the matter was comparatively simple. Obviously the libraries should divide the ground between them and each select its own line for the purchase of books. In New York the problem had been solved by actual union under one governing board. In Chicago steps were being taken toward co-operation in growth and a division of the field of knowledge and of art. The second case, that of a free and a proprietary library, was more difficult, though even here a good deal of co-operation was practicable. The question would come up in the proprietary library, "Are we willing to give equal freedom to the users of the public library? Such liberty of use will commonly be restricted in the semi-public library to certain classes of books where it will not interfere with the rights of members; these will be books on subjects of limited interest, or rare and costly books used by scholars only. Such provisions are made in Boston, Hartford, Providence, and many other places. In any case there will be large classes of books which each library must have. Mr. Lane read extracts from Mr. Putnam's recent report bearing on methods of co-operation between such libraries. At the Athenæum, when the purchase of an expensive or unusual book is contemplated, a return postal-card is sent to each of the principal libraries in the vicinity, asking whether the library owns the book already or intends to buy it. Decision is then based on the replies. Similarly, when a work of this character is acquired a notification in like form is sent to these libraries. Such forms will probably be adopted at the Boston Public Library, and have been adopted at Harvard College Library.*

As to smaller libraries in neighboring towns, Why, Mr. Lane asked, is it not possible for four or five libraries to buy a certain number of books as joint property to be transferred from one to another once in two months or so? If there are legal obstacles to holding the books in common, each might own one-fourth or one-fifth of the books, with the understanding that they were to be exchanged.

The loaning of books among libraries is common, and is perhaps sometimes carried too far.

We must not, in our generosity, forget the rights of our own readers and of posterity. Though little or no loss may result from such loans the wear and tear must be taken into account.

The president then called upon Mr. Dewey, who was warmly welcomed, and described the step just taken by New York state toward a campaign to inspire an appetite for good books, by the appointment of Mr. Richard Jones, of Swarthmore College, as literature inspector, to work through public libraries, study clubs, and the 640 schools and academies under the charge of the regents of the university, with intent to make New York read more good books than any other place in the world. Mr. Dewey then told of the library for the blind maintained by the state and loaned to any blind person who asked for books, and of the lending of pictures and lantern slides and large framed pictures to hang in school-rooms.

Mr. Bowker said it was a pleasant feeling that a member of one library association is a member of all, welcome to any meeting held where he may chance to be—which exemplified the spirit of co-operation. He described the condition in Brooklyn, where the Historical Society, the Brooklyn Library, the Brooklyn Institute, and the Pratt Institute found the lines of demarcation naturally drawn, and where it is hoped to show how the rarer books can be most economically placed at the service of the public.

Mr. Fletcher thought the proprietary libraries were generous in intention and aimed to promote scholarship and the public good. He instanced the libraries of Northampton, Amherst, and vicinity as a good field for co-operation. There was need of a library council representing these towns and Springfield and Holyoke, meeting two or three times a year. The result had been attained long ago in Hartford, where under the Watkinson will the trustees of the Watkinson Library included *ex-officio* the governor, the president of the Historical Society, the president of the Young Men's Institute (now the Public Library), and Trinity College. The co-operation or co-production of small libraries is a fruitful topic. In Massachusetts the feeling of local independence has prevented the state from being entrusted with the powers it has in New York. If this feeling cannot be overcome the libraries must themselves combine.

Mr. Soule thought that in the interests of the smaller libraries we ought to know definitely: How far these libraries are at liberty to send readers to metropolitan libraries; how far they may call on larger libraries for loans. Let the confederated libraries issue a circular stating just how far they will admit visitors and loan books. We need, above all, an effective central organization. The original purpose for which the Library Commission was created is nearly carried out; it is now time to widen the scope of the commission and make it an effective aid to established libraries. If this is not done we shall soon be far in the rear in the library movement.

* At least so far as the inquiry cards are concerned. The return part of the card is so printed that when it is received filled out with the statement that the Athenæum has (or will soon buy) such and such a book, it can be cut down and filed in the official catalogue. — W. H. T.

Mr. Foster said that the three libraries in Providence keep informed as to their respective purchases of books, and maintain a co-operative list of periodicals taken by each and by certain other libraries, such as that of the Naval School and the Torpedo Station and Agricultural Station. In the revision of the by-laws of the Providence Athenæum special attention has been paid to helping other libraries, and the librarian of Brown University and the librarian of the Public Library have been made *ex-officio* shareholders in the Athenæum, and can send for books in their own names.

In concluding Mr. Foster moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Cutter for his kindness in providing the opportunity for this exceptionally delightful session, and it was unanimously adopted.

The meeting then adjourned, but the company gathered at the Forbes Library in the evening and conversed on library topics and some others, while examining an exhibition of photographs and engravings.

Among the guests not already mentioned were Miss Kelso, from New York, Miss Richardson, secretary of the Connecticut Library Association, and Miss Sanborn, of Manchester, N. H. Dr. Billings, who had hoped to be present, was unfortunately prevented by a trustees' meeting in New York. President Seelye favored us with a call in the evening.

About 40 members and guests spent the night in Northampton, the Norwood being headquarters. How many in the morning visited Springfield and Hartford the secretary cannot at this writing state, but fears that Mt. Tom, Mt. Holyoke, and Amherst in combination may have worked harm to the hopes of our friends in the south. There are rumors of an ascent of Mt. Tom before breakfast and a visit to Williamsburg at the same charming but unpractical hour. It is certain, however, that a party of 20 spent two hours at Amherst learning much of library methods and carrying away memories of beauty of hills and plain that will blend with memories of Northampton to make life less commonplace for many a day.

W. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary*.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

Treasurer: Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Gratia Countyman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. W. Bailey, Nashua.

Corresponding Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Librarian and Treasurer: Miss A. M. Colby, Public Library, Concord.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Cornelia A. See, Public Library, New Brunswick.

Secretary: Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

THE New Jersey Library Association held a special meeting at the Princeton University Library May 20, 1896.

President Patton cordially welcomed the association, and in an inspiring address dwelt upon the importance of a librarian's work. He considered the librarian one of the most important factors in university life, as without him the student would merely have a text-book knowledge and would fail to receive that liberal education which the proper use of books alone can give.

The committee on legislation reported that the library commission bill was vetoed by the governor owing to the fact that the clause appropriating \$100 to the aid of new libraries had been eliminated, and thus the usefulness of the measure had been defeated. The committee recommended that the association renew its efforts to have the bill passed, as it was originally drafted, at the next session of the legislature.

Miss Burdick, acting librarian at Jersey City, read an instructive paper on the work of her library and the public schools of the city, showing that teachers and scholars alike appreciate the advantages of a free public library.

Newark just now is much exercised over the possible removal from that city of the New Jersey Historical Society. Mr. William R. Weeks read a timely paper upon "The future of the New Jersey Historical Society," in which he reviewed in detail the munificent offer of Princeton University to give the society a permanent home in the new University Library, where its treasures might find a place free from vandal hands, dust, and the destructive mouse. The picture he drew of the society under these new conditions was alluring, but the consensus of opinion was that the library ought to stay in Newark as the representative city of the state, and that citizens ought to exhibit enough public spirit to put the society on its feet once more.

Professor Ernest C. Richardson, in an interesting paper upon "The duties of libraries toward local history," sketched briefly the importance of every library's collecting historical data relating to the early history of a place in which it is situated.

More than 30 representatives of New Jersey libraries were present at the meeting, and among the guests were Dr. Wire, of Chicago, and Mr. Baker, of Columbia University.

After luncheon at Prof. Richardson's house the afternoon was devoted to the inspection of the beautiful university buildings and grounds.

BEATRICE WINSOR, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. N. Larned, Buffalo Library, Buffalo.

Secretary: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

THE New York Library Association held a two days' session at Syracuse on Friday and Saturday, May 29-30. The registered attendance was 46, but on Friday evening there were at least 100 in the audience. The meetings were held in the hall of the Women's Industrial Union, on Montgomery st., a few doors from the Central Library.

The first meeting was on Friday afternoon. In the unavoidable absence of Hon. J. K. McGuire, mayor of Syracuse, librarian E. W. Mundy extended a cordial welcome to the association. J. N. Larned, of Buffalo, the president, on taking the chair, gave an address in which he sketched the origin, growth, and meaning of the free public library movement. He pointed to the fact that, while Massachusetts led the way and New York was slow in awakening, our own state is now rapidly assuming her true rank of leadership by the energy and magnitude of her library work. The free town library is wholly a product of the last half century. It is the crowning creation of democracy for its own higher culture. "The true literature that we garner in our libraries is the deathless thought, the immortal truth, the imperishable quickenings and revelations which genius has been frugally, steadily planting in the fertile soil of written speech from the beginning. As I look at it, there is nothing save the air we breathe that we have common rights in so sacred and so dear, and there is no other public treasure which so reasonably demands to be kept and cared for and distributed for common enjoyment at common cost."

W. R. Eastman, the secretary, read a paper on "The library situation in Central New York," dealing principally with the statistics of 166 libraries in 14 central counties, naming the incorporated villages in each county, and showing that almost all, except those of very small population, were provided with libraries of some sort. But when we look for the towns we find that 130 out of 241 towns in the district report no library. It was afterward suggested that many of them might have Sunday-school libraries. The counties of Herkimer, Oneida, and Onondaga are specially prominent in the advance of the past few years. He called attention to the opportunity and need for farther advance along three lines:

1. To put more money and effort into existing institutions, and make many more subscription libraries free.

2. Where school libraries contain material suited to general circulation to place that part of them under independent management.

3. To found libraries in small towns and school districts wherever there are people enough to require a post-office.

B. G. Clapp, of Fulton, told a very inter-

esting story of the successful attempt to establish a public library in that village, by arousing interest in the minds of influential persons by individual suggestion and appeal and using existing resources as a nucleus for the new enterprise.

Fred Van Dusen, of Ogdensburg, in a paper on "A library association or a public library?" gave an account of the movement in that city which resulted in the formation of a library by transfer of the school libraries and the acquisition of a most elegant and desirable property for their library building. There was an association of 150 members behind the undertaking, whose annual contributions were added to the public funds; but this could not have been formed and maintained with the narrow aim of supplying reading to the members alone. With regard to the library tax he said: "It may be set down as a moral certainty that no more loyal supporters of worthy public institutions can be found than the smaller taxpayers, the common people, if they be treated with any proper degree of consideration." "The sense of ownership begets interest." "If a library be restricted to the use of members of an association, the highest aim of a library is defeated."

J. E. Brandegee, of Utica, and A. L. Peck, of Gloversville, told of the work of establishing libraries in their respective cities. They testified to the growing popular interest and greater ease with which municipal aid could be secured.

At six o'clock the association were made guests of the Syracuse Central Library, and seated at tables bountifully spread in the parlors adjoining the hall. Two pleasant hours of social enjoyment prepared the way for the intellectual feast of the evening.

At eight o'clock the members assembled again in the hall, where Prof. W. G. Ward, of the department of literature in Syracuse University, spoke on "Reading as a factor in education." "Formerly," he said, "literature was studied by critical opinions, but now the books themselves must be mastered." "Instruction may be as scientific as you please; it amounts to nothing without wide reading." "The novel is exerting the widest influence to-day; a man must read novels to be wise in character." "Gibbon said, 'I read for suggestion; when an idea is suggested I quit reading and pursue the idea.'" "To be inspired for work, read Browning or some other favorite author. One will say, 'Holmes is the first man to get me awake; after reading him I can go to work with a glow.'" "Lowell said, 'The way to read is to read what you like to read; before you're done you will like something else. But be sure it is worth reading—worthy—then like with all your heart.'" "Learning is often assimilated by the thread furnished by the life of a man. It is the same with history. The ancient world comes in to a great man and the modern world grows out of him." The address was instructive, stimulating, and delightful throughout.

In the discussion which followed valuable

suggestions were made by Fred Van Dusen, G. F. Bowerman, J. E. Brandege, Mrs. Dowling, L. O. Wiswell, J. N. Larned, A. L. Peck, Miss E. L. Foote, Rev. Jas. A. Skinner, and Miss Irene Earle. Supt. W. D. Mauro, of Rome, contributed an admirable paper on "Ways of advertising a library." It was expected that the evening session would be closed by an address from Melvil Dewey, director of the State Library, but press of business at Albany compelled him to disappoint the meeting.

The session of Saturday morning was opened with a paper from A. L. Peck, of Gloversville, on "The opportunity of the librarian to influence the reading of the community," a subject of common interest, which was treated with rare skill and abundantly illustrated out of the speaker's long and successful experience in school and library.

Miss Anna R. Phelps, of Utica, speaking of "A library in a rural community," greatly interested the meeting in her account of the establishment and work of a public library kept in a small school-house at Glen Haven, at the head of Skaneateles Lake, in the neighborhood of a summer hotel, whose guests interested themselves in the enterprise. She expressed the hope that the recent establishment of Arbor day might prove to be a prophecy of Library day as a national holiday set apart to the humanities.

The closing exercise, in charge of Miss Mary S. Cutler, of the Library School at Albany, was an examination of the librarians' vote recently taken to determine the best 50 books of 1895 for the purposes of a village library. Charts were prepared to enable the meeting to follow the comparisons made. Many desirable changes and additions to the list were proposed and discussed by those present, and, with their full agreement, a revised list was made which differs in many particulars from that previously published. (*See p. 274.*)

W. R. EASTMAN, *Secretary.*

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: D. A. Campbell, State Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Mary Jones, State University, Lincoln.

Treasurer: Miss Carrie C. Dennis, Public Library, Lincoln.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland.

Secretary: Miss Alice Boardman, State Library, Columbus.

Treasurer: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Jos. G. Rosengarten, Free Library, Philadelphia.

Secretary: C. S. Kates, Free Library, Branch 5, West Phila., Phila.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. A. Resag, Institute Free Library, Wilmington, Del.

the club 'elected at the February meeting and not recorded in previous reports:

President, Joseph G. Rosengarten, ex-officio trustee of the Free Library; Vice-presidents, E. H. Anderson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburg; T. L. Montgomery, Wagner Free Institute, Philadelphia; Executive committee, John Thomson, Free Library of Philadelphia; Alfred Rigling, Franklin Institute; Miss Alice Kroeger, Drexel Institute; Miss Jennie Y. Middleton, Apprentices' Library; Mrs. Mary A. Fell, City Institute, Philadelphia; George P. Rupp, Girard College; Robert P. Bliss, Bucknell Library, Chester; Secretary, Clarence Sears Kates, Philadelphia; Treasurer, Mrs. M. A. Resag, Wilmington Institute Library, Wilmington, Del.

The last two meetings of the club have been very successful.

At the meeting held April 13 the president, Mr. Rosengarten, spoke at some length on the connection between a librarian's duties towards his library and towards the community at large. His remarks raised quite a discussion, and formed a capital adjunct to a paper read by Mr. Charles Knowles Bolton, of the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, on "The librarian's duty as a citizen," which was the principal topic of the evening. This paper appeared in the May number of the JOURNAL. At the close of Mr. Bolton's address the members of the club examined the new cataloging department and the bindery of the Free Library, and spent a pleasant hour in social gossip, enlivened by a light supper served in the cataloging-room.

The most important meeting of the season was held at Pittsburg on May 11. Generous arrangements were made by the board of trustees of the Philadelphia Free Library as to the attendance of assistants. Most of the officers of the club, accompanied by over 30 of the assistants of the Free Library, Apprentices' Library, and the City Institute, were enabled to visit the three Carnegie libraries of Pittsburg, Allegheny, and Braddock. The party left Philadelphia in a special car provided by the Pennsylvania R. R. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Stevenson, accompanied by several ladies, received the club on Saturday night, and a very enjoyable Sunday was spent in visiting the churches and parks of Pittsburg. On Monday morning the club visited the Pittsburg Carnegie Library, and Mr. Archer, the organist of the institution, gave a delightful organ recital. In the afternoon Mr. Stevenson and some of the trustees received the club at the Allegheny Carnegie Library, after which the visiting members were taken in several four-in-hands for a capital spin to Schenley Park, in the neighborhood. On Tuesday they visited the Braddock Library, where they were received by Miss Sperry, the librarian, and some of the residents, and where they completed a most interesting examination of the library systems pursued in these three neighboring institutions. Several of the chief officials of the Edgar Thomson Steel Co. invited the club to close the day by a visit to the works, and escorted them around.

THE following is the full list of the officers of

Two business meetings were held on Monday afternoon and Monday evening. At the first session the principal subject was the travelling libraries system as just adopted for Pennsylvania. (*See p. 277.*) At the request of Mr. Anderson, the chairman of the meeting, Mr. Thomson, of the Philadelphia Free Library, gave a rather full account of the objects and methods of the system adopted by the new organization. A discussion followed, which was joined in by many of the members, and the Pittsburgh librarians promised cordial co-operation in the development of this important work. In the evening an admirable paper was delivered by Mr. William H. Brett, of the Cleveland Public Library, on "The development of a librarian." This is the concluding address of a series of papers he has been recently delivering on this interesting subject, and it will shortly be printed as one of the *Occasional Papers* of the Pennsylvania Library Club.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

Library Clubs.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

Secretary: Miss May L. Bennett, Armour Institute.

Treasurer: W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going — and so good-day!"

This is the motto of the Milwaukee Library Round Table, a club formed for the benefit of all the library force, but especially for those assistants who are prevented by stress of purse or distance from attending the state and national library conventions. The club has no constitution, no officers, no dues, no formality; its object being simply recreation and inspiration.

Its meetings were auspiciously opened by a dinner, tendered by the librarian, Miss West, on March 7, 1895, followed by an interesting program. A paper by Miss Sharp on "Library school and training classes," aroused much interest.

The second meeting was held April 24, 1895. After luncheon, an illustrated talk was given by Miss West on "Library architecture."

At the May meeting Miss Van Valkenburgh spoke on "Catalogs and cataloging." In June an electric launch was chartered for an evening on the river. The latter part of June the

Round Table had the pleasure of entertaining the Armour Institute faculty and training class, who came by boat from Chicago for the day.

The next meeting was purely social, under the guise of an old-fashioned "candy-pull."

During the summer months the meetings were suspended; being resumed by a talk by Mr. Hutchins, chairman of the Wisconsin Library Commission, on "Travelling libraries."

The membership at the present time is necessarily limited to the members of the library staff, owing to the lack of accommodation and the technical nature of the discussions; but it is hoped, with the advent of the new building, to make the meetings of more general interest to the public by introducing special literary features.

The benefits of such a club are inestimable. There is the pleasure of the social hour of intimate association for those whose days are crowded with a multiplicity of duties. The papers presented and the discussions lead to new opinions and enthusiasms.

If the Round Table has a creed, it may be expressed in no better way than in the words of Phillips Brooks: "Joy or delight in what you are doing is a help for the more perfect doing of your work. Try just as far as possible to find the pleasure of your life in the work to which it has been settled that your life must be given. Study its principles. Let your interest dwell on its details. Make it delightful by the affections which cluster around it, by the help which you are able through it to give to other people, by the education which your own faculties are getting out of it. In all these ways make your business the centre and fountain of your joy and then life will be healthy and strong."

L. E. STEARNS.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Secretary: Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Treasurer: Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

The annual meeting of the New York Library Club was held on May 14, in the hall of the Young Women's Christian Association, East 15th street. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. Stevens, who at once appointed a nominating committee consisting of Mr. Baker, Miss Cattell, and Miss Prescott.

The treasurer's report was read, showing a balance in the treasury of \$92.71.

Mr. S. H. Berry and Mr. C. A. Nelson were appointed as auditing committee. Mrs. Mary E. Craigie, the president of the Brooklyn Library Association, was elected a member of the club.

Mr. Stevens called the attention of the club to the meeting of the state association at Syracuse, and to the Cleveland meeting of the A. L. A., urging the attendance of the members of the club upon both meetings.

The subject for the afternoon was a history of the organization and work of the club from

its beginning. It was thought fitting at the close of the 10th year of the life of the club to take a little time for retrospection. Mr. Nelson, who has been a member of the club almost from the beginning, read a paper in which he described the organization of the club, June 18, 1885, in the old library at Columbia College, with 12 charter members, the first meeting in November, also at Columbia, and subsequent meetings down to date, giving the place of meeting and the program of subjects discussed. At the close of the paper many members present testified to the help and inspiration the club had been to them.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Miss Mary W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn; Vice-presidents, Arthur E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library, W. J. C. Berry, librarian Law Institute, New York; Secretary, Miss Josephine A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn; Treasurer, Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Hist. Soc. Library, Brooklyn.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE, *Secretary*.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: Dr. Cyrus Adler, Smithsonian Institution.

Secretary and Treasurer: F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 16th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University on May 27, 1896, Dr. Cyrus Adler presiding.

Miss Irene Gibson and Miss Florence P. Chase, both employed in the office of the superintendent of public documents, were elected to membership.

A motion was carried to subscribe for a copy of the current number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, to be placed in the Free Public Library for convenience of all.

This being the last meeting of the association for the season, attention was called to the September conference of the A. L. A., and every one was urged to make an effort to report in Cleveland, and share in the good things that will be ready for all.

Mr. Henderson Presnell, librarian of the U. S. Bureau of Education, then read a paper entitled "Library legislation," which, it is hoped, may be printed, as it contained a *résumé* of the legislation which affects libraries in each state and territory, and is a very valuable compendium for reference. He showed the small beginnings with school libraries, their development into district, then township, and finally into the free public libraries, which are supported by general taxation. He stated that the growth of the library movement since 1890 has been phenomenal, and one upon which this country may be congratulated.

The topic for general discussion was "Departmental or sectional libraries," and the association heard with interest the experiences of Prof. John Martin Vincent, librarian of the Historical Seminary of Johns Hopkins University,

Baltimore; Mr. W. P. Cutter, librarian of the Department of Agriculture; Mr. N. P. Scudder, of the Smithsonian and National Museum library, and Capt. H. L. Prince, librarian U. S. Patent Office. The constituency of these libraries being very different, as were the points of view of the speakers, it seemed to be impossible to arrive at any hard and fast rules for the government of such libraries; yet apparently one was admitted by all, viz.: "When you have only a single copy of a book that is claimed by more than one section, *keep it in the central library.*"

Adjourned until October, 1896.

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary*.

Reviews.

SCOTT, Temple. Book sales of 1895: a record of the most important books sold at auction, and the prices realized, with introduction, notes, and index. London, P. Cockram, 1896. 10 + 443 p. sq. O.

The necessity for two publications covering the same ground is not obvious unless the object of the second be to reduce the cost of the information given to would-be purchasers. The yearly issues of "Book-prices current" have been almost beyond the purses of ordinary libraries, and others with means have hesitated about investing, by reason of the cost. Mr. Scott's book is published at a lower price, and its make-up is excellent; the large, broad page and the selection of type, small but very clear, with catchwords in black-face type, make consultation quick and easy. Of course the personal equation of the compiler governs largely the selection of titles of books; not all classes of buyers can expect their preferences to be included, and opinions must differ as to books excluded from such price-lists. Mr. Scott's introduction is entertaining, and he claims "no special merit for this book other than may be found in the notes and in the comprehensive index."

The issue for 1896 will be issued in quarterly parts, thus keeping purchasers in much closer touch with the sales. Henry Stevens, Son & Stiles are the agents for this country. As a key to the present values of books thrown on the market at the English auction sales the book is of great value. C: A. N.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, *New York*. A collection of books for young people. 300 volumes. 28 p. D.

—Catalogue of a model library. 500 volumes. 32 p. D.

—Catalogue of a model library. 1000 volumes. 48 p. D.

It is not usual to notice sales catalogs in these columns, but the rather novel circumstances under which these lists are issued may serve as sufficient reason for an exception. These catalogs, it is explained in an accom-

panying circular, are the outcome of a "new library plan" which consists, briefly, in supplying to libraries three collections, one "a library complete in itself, consisting of 1000 volumes, another of 500, and a juvenile library of 300 books, all of which have been examined and approved by the library authorities of several states." The 1000-v. collection is an extension of the 500-v. library, the children's list being quite separate. The books, it is said, "have been selected by experts with experience in the every-day needs of small libraries," from such lists as those of the state boards of education and the A. L. A. catalog. They are supplied at the rates of \$1000 net for the 1000-volume collection, which is listed at \$1521, \$500 for the 500 volumes, and \$300 for the juvenile collection. With each library the publishers will supply 1000 copies of the catalog, specially printed with the name and rules of the library, and any other material desired. A brief statement of the ways in which money may be obtained for library purposes, from the state, by subscription, by entertainments, etc., is also given in the circular, which offers to the librarian of a small town the enticing prospect of library and catalog secured ready-made.

The catalogs are attractive little pamphlets, neatly printed and bound in paper covers. They are classed lists, with author entries only, nearly every entry having excellent short annotations. The children's list is illustrated with many good portraits of writers represented.

The question that naturally arises in regard to such lists as this is whether the principle of "proportional representation" has been observed in selection, or whether there is an undue inclusion of the publishers' own publications. These catalogs include many books issued by other houses, and at first sight seem to be remarkably free from such one-sidedness, but closer examination shows that a goodly majority of the books bear the Scribner imprint. The lists are well made and interesting, though only partially representative of the best books for a small library. The inclusion of the 18 volumes of *Scribner's Magazine* among "Works of reference," the listing of Bryant's "History of the United States" as the only history of the United States, the inclusion of Holland and Eugene Field among American poets to the exclusion of Lowell, Poe, or Stedman, and the listing of such series as "Stories by American authors," "Stories by English authors," "Illustrated library of wonders," "Epochs of history," "Campaigns of the Civil War," "Great writers," etc., show that the personal equation is not wholly absent. Probably this would be too much to expect.

Messrs. Scribner have shown commendable enterprise in this development of the library field, and their scheme, which is under the energetic charge of Miss T. L. Kelso, will undoubtedly be most helpful to many libraries, especially in small towns. The plan itself, and the large way in which it has been taken up, are interesting evidence of the increasing importance of libraries in the commercial world.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

IN *Nature*, May 7, 1896, Mr. John J. Ogle, librarian of the Free Public Library of Bootle, offers a suggestion that is of interest to American as well as English librarians. He urges that the new education bill, now before Parliament, be amended so that "all institutions in England and Wales supported out of a rate raised under the Public Libraries Acts or the Museums and Gymnasiums Act, should be put under the management and control of the same local authority as may be appointed for elementary, technical, and secondary education." The object is to unify the management of educational institutions in the community. In the *Library* (7: 129) Mr. Ogle has a paper on the same general subject.

LOCAL.

Atlanta (Ga.) Young Men's L. A. (29th rpt. — year ending April 30, '96) Added 514; total 16,832; circulation 16,045.

"Owing to local causes (the International exposition) the circulation was not so great as the year previous, but for the number of visitors and students using books in the reading-rooms, the past year has exceeded all others in the library's life and gives promise of what is to be expected during the coming year.

"The library is greatly indebted to Mr. R. R. Bowker, of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, for two volumes of the 'American Catalogue,' which he presents to the library in recognition of the services of its librarian, Miss Anne Wallace, in organizing the library conference of November 29-30, 1895, held at Atlanta.

"The library conference held in Atlanta, Nov. 29 and 30, 1895, was the first of the kind held in the South, and the papers read before this conference have been compiled and issued by the bureau of education as circulars of information. The American Library Association was represented at the meeting, and some steps were taken to bring the national organization to Atlanta in 1898. It is to be hoped that the matter will receive the support of all interested in library growth in the South, as this gathering of the leading librarians of the United States at Atlanta would do much to advance library interests. If it were possible to have represented every library of the South from the best endowed institutions of the country to the poorest struggling library of the little towns, and give them the benefit of the knowledge and experience of the well-equipped modern libraries, it would do more to revolutionize library work in the South and to overcome the present sluggishness in library circles than all the printed matter ever written upon the subject.

"In the meantime—that is, prior to bringing the American Library Association to Atlanta in 1898—the Young Men's Library should undergo a thorough overhauling in the matter of classification, a card catalog should be instituted, and a new book-room equipped with new steel stacks, electric lights, and every conven-

ience necessary to make our library an object lesson in utility and beauty for the smaller libraries of the state and of the South."

Boston P. L. GEMS OF THE BARTON LIBRARY.

Foremost special collection in Boston's P. L. (In *Boston Herald*, May 24.) 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ col.

Boston P. L. (44th rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '96.) Added 30,611, of which 15,582 were gifts; total 628,297, of which 158,423 are in the branches. Issued, home use 847,321, of which 567,827 were issued through the nine branches and 13 delivery stations. No. card-holders 34,842, as against 29,971 on Jan. 1, 1895. Receipts \$250,057.58; expenses \$219,416.39.

This report, which is really a detailed history of the library since its removal to the new building in March, 1895, is so full of interest and value that adequate quotation within necessary limits is impracticable, and we therefore recommend it in its entirety to the careful perusal of librarians. The trustees' report is a summarized statement of the main facts of the year, and is followed by the remarkably full and interesting report of Mr. Putnam, the suggestive report of the examining committee, with correspondence as to interchange and co-operation with other libraries in Boston and its vicinity, and appendixes covering the financial status of the library, accessions, classification, registration, circulation, work of branches and delivery stations, full schedule of library service, rules as to employment, with graded salary list, application blank and specimen examination papers, by-laws, list of newspapers in the newspaper reading-room, covering journals of most of the countries of the world, from Alaska to Cape Colony, correspondence as to gifts, and the usual list of donations.

During the year 52,744 v. were cataloged, and 92,993 cards placed in the card catalog, the composition of the catalog cards being done by the linotype. 9898 v. were bound in the library bindery, and 7198 v. were bound by contract at a cost of \$1941.55.

"For the collection of books for the young a list was compiled of 944 titles, which it was hoped to purchase in full for each branch as well as for the central library, the purpose being to number these collections uniformly, and print one list that would answer throughout. The design was further to have each of these collections placed on open shelves, where they might be handled by the children without formality. The list, therefore, while mainly of books written for young readers, included a considerable number of books not specifically so written. These were interspersed by way of suggestion, in the hope of attracting towards a wider and perhaps higher range of interest. This undertaking, if fully carried out, would involve the purchase of some 13,000 volumes. Of these, about 6500 volumes have thus far been bought."

On Jan. 1, 1896, it was decided that the life of a borrower's card should be two years instead of one, and to secure unity all cards are

to be issued as from the central library, with one series of numbers. This will do away with the confusion resulting from separate registration records at the various branches. Mr. Putnam gives special attention to the large reference use of books. "Without the intervention of an attendant the reader may inspect, take down, and read (as he would in his own home) some 6000 volumes in Bates hall, some 5800 volumes in the patent library, and some 3000 volumes in the children's room. With only such formality as is involved in registering his name and address he may directly inspect and (without a card or call-slip) have taken down and read some 91,540 volumes on the special libraries floor. He finds some 700 periodicals on the tables, where he may handle them without inquiry or formality, and 700 more which may be had without a call-slip. In addition he finds the newspaper reading-room, with 263 daily, semi-weekly, and weekly newspapers (182 American, 81 foreign), where he is equally exempt from inquiry or formality. The actual use of the new privileges has out-run all expectation." There have been 371,048 v. issued from the stacks for reference use, but "the use of the 100,333 v. for which no slips are necessary cannot even be guessed. There are often no less than 600 readers at a time."

Since June, 1895, 634 teachers' cards, on which six books at a time may be withdrawn, have been issued. The report of the examining committee is especially interesting in its suggestions as to delivery stations, work with the children, library co-operation, and means of popularizing the library. (*See p. 277.*)

Bozeman (Mont.) P. L. (5th rpt. — year ending Apr. 30, '96.) Added 668; total 3651; circulation 13,095; lost 3, two of which were paid for. Expenses \$1249.98; librarian's salary \$220.

Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L. had an exhibition of foreign posters in its art department from May 16 to June 6.

Brooklyn L. (38th rpt. — year ending Feb. 29, '96.) Added 4588; total 124,299; circulation 92,116; Sunday attendance for 44 afternoons 2219; deliveries at five branch stations 5401. Receipts from 2688 annual memberships \$9836.93; total receipts \$21,144.39; expenses \$21,661.94.

The "Lynde fund" has been established by the bequest of \$10,000 from the late Charles Rollin Lynde. Mr. W. A. White gave \$2000 for the purchase of books.

A notable feature in this library is its collection of classed newspaper clippings, which now numbers 91 v. covering 30 subjects.

The report contains a three-page extract from a paper on the library read before the Woman's Club of Brooklyn, March 9, by Miss L. F. Tweedy, assistant in the library.

Buffalo (N. Y.) L. (60th rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '95.) The 59th report, noted in the May JOURNAL, was not the report for 1895, as there incorrectly stated, but that of 1894, which

had previously appeared in the L. J. for June, 1895 (L. J. 20 : 322). The 1895 report, submitted at the annual meeting on Feb. 27, 1896, gives the following statistics: Added 4378; total 80,084. Issued, home use 140,651 (fict. 60.31 %); lib. use 44,585; membership 2844. Receipts \$19,-988.75; expenses \$19,504.61.

Mr. Larned says that the recorded use of the library shows notable increase, while if account of all reference use was kept it would, he thinks, "probably be found equal in volumes to the circulation of books drawn." He gives an analysis of the fiction circulation, based on the time spent in reading, rather than on the number of books drawn. Of the 2279 active members 449 were found to draw nothing but fiction, 220 drew no fiction, and 1580 used mixed reading, fiction predominating. "The 449 persons or families who draw nothing but fiction took, in all, 9824 volumes within the six months. The 220 who drew no fiction took 1738 volumes. In the first instance, the reading done was not quite 22 volumes each, or a little less than one volume per week for each reader; in the other instance, it was about eight volumes to each reader for the six months, thus allowing a trifle more than three weeks to the reading of each volume.

"I am disposed to think that these figures are suggestive of a time-measure by which the reading of books from public libraries may be valued more justly than by the count of novels as against other volumes. That is to say, if we divide our novel circulation by three, we shall bring it scarcely below its true representation of real reading done, in mere time, and of the actual number of the readers as compared with more solid books."

Carlisle, Mass. Gleason L. The new Gleason Library building, given to the town of Carlisle by Mrs. Johanna Parker Gleason, was dedicated May 13. The exercises were held in the Unitarian church, which was filled to overflowing, many being present from all the neighboring towns. Samuel S. Green, of Worcester, delivered the dedicatory address.

The building, which cost \$12,000, occupies a central site in the square in the village, on a lot having a frontage of 190 feet and a depth of 210 feet, and setting back 75 feet from the street. It is of pressed brick and terra-cotta trimmings, 57 by 35 feet, and the architecture is of the modern Romanesque style. The lot slopes back, so that at the rear the basement rooms show a full story above the ground. The interior is all finished in panel of natural woods. The entrance is through a large arch and vestibule, with floor of mosaic tile to the hall.

The waiting and delivery room is 14 by 22 feet, in the rear of which is the book-room, 18 by 22 feet. Connecting these rooms is an arch with counter. Leading from the delivery-room is the reading-room, made attractive by an open fireplace and mantel of moulded brick and terra-cotta. There are also rooms for the library committee and trustees. The basement contains heating apparatus, toilet and storage rooms; also by special arrangement, a room

for the use of the selectmen, with a fire-proof vault.

On the second floor is a hall, 32 x 23 feet, for lectures and historical purposes. On this floor are closets for collections of antiquities, etc. The building is well lighted by large plate-glass windows, and furnished with tables and chairs of covered oak. Many valuable pictures adorn the walls.

Mrs. Gleason is a native of the town, and a daughter of the late Major Jonas Parker. She now resides in Sudbury. She has made other gifts to the town, and a short time ago she gave \$1000 for a town clock.

Charlotte (Mich.) P. L. The first report of the directors, submitted to the city council, summarizes the history of the library since its organization and the appointment of directors by city ordinance in November, 1894. The first meeting of directors was held January 8, 1895, when officers were elected; "but as there was no existing library to control and not a dollar of money ever having been raised for library purposes, nothing remained for the board to do." On May 6, 1895, the council directed that a tax of one-half mill be levied for a library fund. This netted \$1090.87, of which \$1085.38 have been expended for books, furniture, and salaries of librarian and janitor. There have been 910 books purchased, which with the 589 v. of the school library, transferred by the school board, gives a total of about 1500 v. The library was opened for issue of books on January 18, 1896. Since then to the date of the report (April 6) 5221 v. have been issued, and there are now 716 readers' cards in use. "The want of more books is already deeply felt." Miss Sarah Williams, of the Armour Institute library class, is librarian.

Chester (Pa.) F. L. (2d rpt.) Added 110; total not given. Issued, home use 8766; lib. use 2366. Total membership 280.

"The new rule which went into effect on December 1, 1895, making membership \$1.20 per annum, and dropping the \$1 when joining, has increased the membership in a marked degree. In the past three months we have had twice as many members as in the previous nine months, which proves that the \$1 fee in joining had prevented many in the past from becoming members of the library. The usefulness of the library has also been increased by allowing members to take two books at one time for home use, only one of which shall be a work of fiction."

Chicago, Ill. McCormick Theological Seminary. The Virginia Library of the seminary was formally presented to the trustees on the evening of May 6. The presentation was made in the reading-room of the library. Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick acted for his mother, Mrs. Nettie Fowler McCormick, who is at present in Florence, Italy. The Virginia Library stands at No. 322 Belden avenue, on the seminary grounds. It is of pure Greek architecture, modelled from the Erechthum of Athens. Its reading-room is amply spacious for its purpose, with a ca-

capacity for 60,000 v. The building is of blue Bedford limestone. It was erected at a cost of \$100,000.

Circleville (O.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 622; total 7375. Issued 24,123, an increase of 4894 over the previous year. Visitors to reading-room 9724. Borrowers' cards in use 1232. Receipts \$1873.86; expenses \$1303.20.

"For the past two years, through the co-operation of the library board and the librarian, special attention has been paid to the children, and they have been led, gradually, to a higher taste in reading. The improvement in this direction has been most remarkable, and it is very gratifying to those engaged in the work. As we have not free access to the shelves, in order to facilitate this plan for the children's improvement teachers have been given permission to select books from the shelves for use in their school work; each teacher is allowed to take 10 books at one time, which may be kept out for four weeks. In order to supply the children, both in this way and also directly from their own cards, with a better class of literature, a special case of well-selected books has been arranged for easy reference by teachers. These books have proved instructive, and, at the same time, are liked by the children, two qualities which do not always go hand in hand."

Cleveland (O.) P. L. The library board has decided to comply with the half-holiday law and give its employes the benefit which is allowed to all other public servants as well as to large numbers of others in private employ. It is to be tried for a month, to see how the public will stand it. The public in this instance consists largely of school-children, who have a whole holiday on Saturday, and can probably contrive somehow to accommodate themselves to the new arrangement.

Concord (Mass.) F. L. (23d rpt. — year ending March, '96.) Added 1059; total 27,848. Issued, home use 26,074; no record of lib. use is kept.

The two-book system was in use during 11 months of the year covered by the report. "In some respects this method makes a little more work, but it has increased the circulation and is, on the whole, much more satisfactory, and more than compensating for the increased work. I think few of the borrowers would like to go back to the one-book limit."

Denver (Colo.) P. L. An interesting poster exhibition was opened at the library on the evening of May 16, when a private view was held, the public display continuing from May 17-21. The basis of the collection was the Century Co.'s collection of Napoleonic poster designs, to which was added the library's collection, gathered during the past two years. In addition to posters, the exhibition included illustrations by Kemble, Reinhart, Frost, and other American illustrators, prepared by the teachers and students of the eighth grades of the district under the direction of the supervisor of drawing, having been cut from the

periodicals collected and turned over to them by the public library. These are intended and are being used by teachers for illustration in various lines of school work, for designs in drawing, wood-carving, china painting, etc., and to lead the children to see the art that is at their doors. The exhibition was largely attended and attracted much interest. The announcements of it, issued by the library, were decidedly original, being printed in ornamental style on Japanese paper, with the seal of the library affixed, and adorned with small reproductions of the three leading Napoleon posters.

Derby (Ct.) P. L. The board of aldermen have adopted a resolution establishing a public library and reading-room, to be known as the Derby Public Library, which shall be maintained by the city. The sum of \$500, appropriated by the city meeting, held January 31, 1896, for the purpose of establishing a library, is to be placed to the credit of the "library fund," with all other monies received for library purposes. The mayor is requested to appoint a board of nine directors for the library, the board of aldermen also appointing a board of nine directors, as prescribed by law.

Durham, N. C. The town has taken up the idea of establishing a public library, and at a recent public meeting the sum of \$8568 was secured.

Germantown, Phila. Friends' F. L. (Rpt.) Added 737; total 18,793. Issued, 13,401; visits to lib. 21,136; no. borrowers "about 1500."

A list of books added in 1895 is appended to the report.

Glenolden, Pa. A site has been chosen and plans selected for a public library building, which it is hoped may be erected this year, as about \$1000 have already been raised as a building fund through the efforts of a number of ladies of the town. The plans call for a two-story building of stone and light brick, with terra-cotta trimmings, providing for the library on the first floor and for a lecture-hall or auditorium on the second. About 300 v. have been collected as the nucleus of the library.

Hillsboro' (Ill.) P. L. The city council has decided to pay the expense of maintaining a public library and reading-room, and has appointed a board of directors.

Hoboken (N. J.) F. P. L. (Rpt. — year ending May 1, '96.) Added 1523, total 14,999; circulation 104,823 (German 13,206, English 91,618). Receipts were \$8442.73, with a cash balance of \$1525.11 at the time of the last report, or a total of \$9967.84. The expenditures were \$9293.35, leaving a cash balance of \$674.49. The receipts for the library building fund, which include donations from individuals and moneys received from the city, amounted to \$13,336.60, while the amount expended was \$6336.60.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L. The library committee has issued a special catalog of industrial books, which is sent to the factories

and workshops of the city and hung in public places. With each catalog is an advertising notice in bold type, which is prominently posted, calling attention to the books and urging mechanics to take advantage of the chance to pursue some course of practical study. In this way it is thought that knowledge of the scientific books will be brought directly to those to whom they will be of the greatest use.

Kingston (Mass.) P. L. At a special town meeting held May 15 a committee was appointed to have charge of the construction of a new public library building. The sum of \$20,000 left to the town in 1879 contingent upon the death of an heir is now available, and the building will be erected upon a lot offered by Horatio Adams and Mrs. Geo. Adams.

Lancaster (Mass.) Town L. (33d rpt. — year ending March, '96.) Added 927; total 26,247. Issued, home use 14,489 (fict. and juv. 60.14%), of which 1438 were for school use; new registration 181; total registration 1647. Receipts and expenses \$1744.62.

A list of the most popular books of the year is given, "Trilby" leading. Appended is a catalog of accessions since March 1, 1895.

Laurel, Md. The citizens of Laurel are about to establish a town library. The various school libraries are to be consolidated, and to this collection there has been added a donation of about 400 volumes from the Enoch Pratt Free Library, composed of books condemned on account of hard usage.

Littleton, Mass. Reuben Hoar L. (9th rpt., 1895-'96.) Added 332; total 6000+. Issued 5846 (fict. 3738); extra books issued on the two-book system 217.

The report includes an account of the dedication of the new library building, the Houghton Memorial, given by Clement S. Houghton and Miss Elizabeth G. Houghton, in memory of their father. The building was given to the town on December 4, 1895, with appropriate dedicatory exercises held in the town hall. Addresses were made by Rev. W. J. Cloues, Clement S. Houghton, G. W. Sanderson, H. J. Harwood, Rev. Edward L. Clark, Hon. H. S. Nourse, and others. An audience of some 700 persons was present, and the new library building was thrown open for public inspection. Lunch was served to about 200 invited guests.

The new building, which stands on a triangular lot on the main street near the town hall, is of yellow brick, with white terra-cotta trimmings, and has a frontage of 50 feet with a length of 57. The main entrance, reached by a flight of five granite steps, is composed of three semi-circular arches supported on columns of terra-cotta, carved and decorated. The centre arch forms the entrance, while under the smaller side arches are bronze tablets containing the names of the Littleton soldiers who served in the civil war. The entrance leads to a vestibule 5 x 14 with an inner door which opens into the main hall. This hall is 23 feet long by 12 feet wide and is 18 feet high. From this opens the librarian's room, opposite

the entrance, and the reading-room on the right. It also contains the main delivery-desk and the stairs leading to the basement, and is lit by two large windows on the side and one in front.

The stack-room, 23 feet wide, 28 long, and 20 high, opens out of the librarian's room. It contains a double-storied iron stack, similar in pattern to the one in the new congressional library in Washington, with rolled steel shelves and a glass floor and a book capacity of about 25,000 v.

The reading-room is 18 by 24 feet and 18 high. At one end is a large ornamental fireplace, over which hangs the portrait of William S. Houghton, the father of the donors. Opposite this is a portrait of Reuben Hoar, in memory of whom the library is named. Under this is a bronze tablet, with an inscription in memory of Mr. Houghton. In the basement are the heating and lighting apparatus, lavatory, etc. The interior is finished with white painted woodwork. The walls in the hall and librarian's room are painted yellow, while the reading-room is a dark olive green above a high white panelled dado.

The whole style of the building is Colonial, all the details, both exterior and interior, being in accordance with this, and its cost complete was about \$25,000.

The Reuben Hoar Library was given to Littleton about 10 years ago by William Stevens Houghton, in whose memory the present building was erected. It was a memorial to Reuben Hoar, of Littleton, who had extricated Mr. Houghton's father from pressing financial difficulties by timely generosity. So deep an impression did his kindly friendship at that time make on young Houghton that he resolved, should he ever be able to do so, to perpetuate Reuben Hoar's name by a worthy memorial. The gift of \$10,000 for the foundation of the Reuben Hoar Library was the first result of this resolve, and Mr. Houghton had intended before his death to add to this a suitable library building. His plan is carried out by his children in the gift of the Houghton memorial building, in which the Reuben Hoar Library is now housed.

Louisville, Ky. Polytechnic Soc. of Kentucky L. (17th rpt.) Added 606; total 49,290. Issued, home use 58,637; to free readers 21,281; total 79,918 (fict. 53,862). Spent for books \$1723.05.

The work of cataloging the library has been completed. The library is open daily, except on Sundays or holidays, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; members of the society may draw books for home use, other persons are charged a small fee for such use, but the library-rooms are absolutely free to all for reading or study.

Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L. The library board at its May meeting rescinded part of its action in March reducing salaries, and restored the salaries of several of the assistants, and also voted to double the amount formerly applied to circulating magazines. Further action may be taken at the June meeting.

New Brunswick (N. J.) F. P. L. (6th rpt. — year ending March 31, '96.) Added 661; total, including books of F. C. L. 13,347; circulation 49,579; readers 2665. Two books lost. Receipts \$4474.24; expenditures \$4270.27. "Books are issued for home use to all persons of 10 years of age and upward on their agreement, with guarantee, to return them in good condition or pay for them if lost."

New York. Aguilar F. L. (7th rpt. — year ending Nov. 1, '95.) Added 4045; total 29,207; readers 35,929; circulation 256,963; reading-room attendance 195,430. Receipts \$16,059.90; expenses \$15,103.41. The ratio of circulation to the number of books is the largest in the state. At the East Broadway branch only 55% of the reading has been fiction. An alcove containing about 1000 v. of biographical works has been dedicated at the East Broadway branch to the memory of Mrs. Nina Goldsmith-Spiegelberg. These alcoves are established by the donation of not less than \$1000, of which sum \$500 is used for the purchase of books and \$500 is invested and the income used for the maintenance of the alcove.

New York. LIBRARIES ON MEDICINE. New York is only indifferently provided with them. (*N. Y. Tribune*, May 24.) $\frac{3}{4}$ col.

New York Public Library—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations. The desirability of the reservoir site for the new library building was the subject of two hearings before the aldermanic committee on county affairs on June 8 and 10. The demolition of the reservoir and the use of the site for library purposes were opposed by members of the board of fire underwriters, though engineers Birdsall and Fiteley, of the aqueduct, testified that the reservoir was of little use and would, when new mains were laid, be wholly unnecessary. Brander Matthews spoke of the need of housing the library in a new building.

The Rochester (N. Y.) *Post Express* in its issues of May 2, 9, and 16 devotes several columns to description of the Astor and Lenox libraries, their history and their chief treasures.

The Astor Library is now open daily until 6 p.m., and workmen have been engaged in putting in electric light. The Astor Library has never been supplied with any light but daylight, and this new improvement has at last been entered upon because many of the alcoves, now overcrowded with accumulations, are so dark on cloudy days as to make the work of the librarians difficult and nearly impossible. When electricity has made the library available after day hours, the management is expecting that the public will make a loud demand for evening openings up to 9 or 10 p.m.

New York. MUSIC LIBRARIES. Valuable departments in the Lenox and Astor collections. The rare books of the late J. W. Drexel. Interesting autographs. Some fine scores in the Astor Library. (*New York Tribune*, May 17.) $1\frac{3}{4}$ col.

New York Y. M. C. A. (43d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 1182; total 44,530; consulted 52,414; readers 33,419; Sunday attendance 6833; number using periodicals in library 50,243; number using periodicals in reading-room 109,577; 584 serials on file. 16 library talks and book exhibitions were given during the year. "The medical department is pronounced by students as the most complete in the city, having more later volumes relating to medical subjects than many so-called larger medical libraries."

Pennsylvania State L., Harrisburg. The report of the state librarian for the year ending Nov. 30, 1894, was published in 1895, and distributed in May, 1896. There were added during the year 3704 v., making the total number of v. (estimated) 117,122. The librarian pleads with the members of the legislature for a "liberal appropriation to this, the most valuable reference library in the state of Pennsylvania." The state should foster it, "and it could easily be made the greatest state library in the country."

Additional force is recommended for the library, and on this point the report says: "Including the state librarian and the night watchman, the regular officials of the state library number only five all told; while in the New York State Library, containing only 50,000 v. more than the state library of Pennsylvania, with little more work to do, the number holding positions is 34, besides several pages and supernumerary clerks; and I may here state that the salary alone of the director of that library comes within \$1000 of all the salaries paid for service in the state library of Pennsylvania. This library should have at least one additional assistant librarian, a permanent cataloger, and a stenographer and typewriter, which latter is certainly essential in a library of this character."

The report contains a list of the books added, a list of the newspapers and magazines on file, and a description of the new state library building, with an historical account of the library. There are also about a score of illustrations of the new building.

Philadelphia F. L. The city councils of Philadelphia have negotiated an \$8,000,000 loan for the city, of which the trustees of the free library have secured \$1,000,000 to establish a central library building. The trustees desire to erect a library building which shall have from 20,000 to 30,000 square feet of ground-floor space, and shall be located as near Broad and Chestnut streets as possible.

Pittsburg, Pa. Carnegie L. (1st rpt. — year ending Ap. 1, '96.)

Although the library was not opened to the public until Nov. 5, 1895, its work really began on April 1, 1895, when the details of securing assistants, ordering and buying books, etc., were undertaken. The first instalment of books arrived May 1, and classifying and cataloging were at once begun. "In six months (from May 1 to Nov. 1) 16,000 v. had arrived

at the library, and 9000 of these were represented in the printed catalog, which was ready for distribution Nov. 5." The statistics of the report show that the library contains 21,374 v., 7579 of which are in the circulating dept., 11,342 in the reference dept., and 2453 in the catalog-room. These figures include 400 v. in the librarian's and catalogers' rooms, 1000 v. of the music and children's collections, and over 3500 government publications; "the practical working collection in the reference department numbers little more than 6000 v." There are 6293 registered borrowers, and 38,499 persons have visited the various reading-rooms during the year. The attendance at the children's room, opened Feb. 1, is estimated at 4350. There have been 41,992 v. issued for home use (fict., adult and juv., 64.05%) and 5629 for ref. use, the latter figures not including the large use of accessible books. The books in the circulating department (about 6000 v.) are entirely inadequate to the demand, and it will be necessary to materially increase the stock. The statistics of circulation show that the monthly issue of books in this department "was on the average 50% greater than the number of volumes which the library had in this department."

The library force now numbers 18 persons. On Sept. 21, 1895, applicants for positions which did not require special training were subjected to a written examination, and the four who passed highest received appointments. "Six others were admitted to a library training class, which was started Jan. 1, with the idea of providing trained assistants for our own and any other libraries in this region which may need them."

We are requested to deny a statement recently made that the payment to the library of the city appropriation has been stopped. Mr. Anderson says: "There is not a shadow of truth in this statement. The entire annual appropriation was turned over to the treasurer of our board of trustees two or three months ago, and we do not anticipate any trouble about future appropriations."

Providence (R. I.) P. L. (18th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 4251; total 75,559; vols. used in library 33,337; circulation 115,743; per cent. of fiction 61.90; registration 4557.

A comparison of the circulation of fiction in this library with that of 38 other libraries shows that 35 on the list circulate a larger per cent. of fiction. The department of history is one of the strongest in the library, and leads in the accessions for the year. Considerable additions have been made in the department of music, and a 15-page catalog of the music library was issued. The circulation record does not include the enormous number of books used at the information desk, nor the general use of the thousands of reference-books upon the open shelves. A handsome seal of novel design has been adopted.

"More attention than ever has been paid,

during the past year, to co-operating, whenever possible, with the various guilds and parish houses, the Union for Christian Work, with its admirable work among street-boys, and the numerous 'boys' clubs' and 'girls' clubs' throughout the city." The Olneyville Free Library has been aided in every way, by the loan of books and by the preparation of lists, in carrying out "the philanthropic side of library work."

Revere (Mass.) P. L. At a town-meeting held May 4, it was voted to purchase a site for a public library at a cost of \$3001.95.

Rochester, N. Y. Reynolds L. The *Illustrated Buffalo Express* for June 7 contains a four-column article by G. F. Bowerman, reference librarian, describing the Reynolds Library; it is illustrated with several views of the interior and exterior and with portraits of the founder and the librarians.

St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L. The majority vote of 1637 polled at the April elections in favor of increasing the library's appropriation from $\frac{1}{16}$ mills to one mill, which was noted in the May JOURNAL, has not had the desired result. Mr. Elmendorf says: "On a technicality and upon the advice of the city counsellor the city authorities declined to appropriate the increased amount. The board of directors have about decided that it will be better to wait another year and resubmit than to have the delay of a lawsuit. No formal action has yet been taken."

Somerville (Mass.) P. L. John S. Hayes, librarian, has issued a "Souvenir: Our public library, 1896," a handsome eight-page brochure, with a portrait of the president of the board of trustees, and an exterior and five interior views of the beautiful library building.

THE STRATFORD (Ct.) LIBRARY. (In *Scientific American*, Building edition, June, 1896, p. 94-95.) il.

The ground plan and a series of illustrations showing various details of the library are given, as well as a brief history of the library. This new building was opened to the public Jan. 16, 1896, and cost \$25,000.

Tarrytown (N. Y.) P. L. Added 330; total 2894; circulation 7400.

"As a registered public library we borrow semi-annually from 100 to 125 books from the state travelling libraries, giving the Public Library the use of from 200 to 250 new books annually."

Waltham (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '96.) Added 1023; total 23,554; circulation 62,721; library open 291 days.

Washington (D. C.) F. P. L. The bill providing for a municipal appropriation for the support of the library, which has been struggling through Congress for several months past, was reported by the conference committee and passed by House and Senate on May 28.

It was signed by the President on the following day. The bill provides that "a free public library and reading-room" shall be established and maintained in the District of Columbia as the property of the District and a supplement to its public educational system. It shall be free to all permanent or temporary residents of the District, and shall be directed by a board of nine library trustees, appointed by the commissioners of the District, three to serve for two years, three for four years, and three for six years. The librarian, to be appointed by the trustees, shall appoint all assistants. The library "shall be located in some convenient place in the city of Washington to be designated by the commissioners of the District, upon the recommendation of the trustees, provided, that in any municipal building to be hereafter erected in said District suitable provision shall be made for said library and reading-room sufficient to accommodate not less than 100,000 volumes."

This bill is the result of several years' hard work on the part of the Washington Library Association and others interested, in which the local press, especially the *Star*, did good service. The library was opened in January of this year (*see* L. J., March, '96), a subscription fund for its maintenance having been secured by the energetic work of Gen. A. W. Greely, who has been foremost in its organization. It now has nearly 7000 v. and about 3500 registered readers, with a circulation of some 200 to 400 v. daily. As the bill makes the library a part of the municipal educational system, it will presumably be supported in the future on the same basis as the public schools; this will be settled at the next session of Congress. The library committee have issued subscription blanks for money to be devoted to books and equipment, the subscription being made conditional upon legislative provision by the 54th Congress for the maintenance of the library on the same basis as the schools. Several thousand dollars have been promised on this conditional arrangement.

Watertown (Ct.) P. L. (31st rpt.) Added 333; total 7436; circulation 11,008; periodicals 2966.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Osterhout F. L. (7th rpt.) Added 2137; total 23,114; circulation 71,569; loaned to schools 9178 on 385 school cards; loaned on 60 music cards 502 scores. Catalogs of music and French and German fiction have been issued. "Some 300 colored plates, chiefly from the back volumes of the *Art Amateur*, have been mounted on heavy cardboard for the use of china-painters, art students, and the schools. Those which were deemed suitable for hanging on the walls of the school-rooms were eyeletted for that purpose."

Wilmington (Del.) F. Institute L. The Rockford Library, which has been maintained for the past 30 years by the Rockford Library and Reading-Room Association, will be known and operated as the Rockford Branch of the Wilmington Institute Free Library.

Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L. (36th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '95.) Added 5618; total 103,428; issued, home use 178,129; ref. use 82,927; circulating dept. open 305 days; reference dept. 365 days; total registration 20,148; Sunday visitors 8973. Receipts \$29,315.10; expenditures \$29,312.80.

"There have been three exhibitions of pictorial matter in the lecture-hall and one large exhibition in the art galleries during the year. 32,360 v. have been given out on the two kinds of cards held by teachers . . . exclusive of the great use made of the library for purposes of reference by teachers and pupils."

FOREIGN.

Birmingham (Eng.) F. L. (34th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added, ref. l. 5700; total 129,600; use 394,982 v. Added to nine circulating ls. 3561; total 79,897; circulation 818,312. Reference l. open 359 days; circulating ls. open 307 days. The Shakespeare Memorial L. now contains 9484 v., and a collection of framed portraits, busts, etc., of Shakespeare. The Sunday use of the reference l. was 31,544 v. The issue of books would have been "larger but for the marked improvement in trade, which diminished the issues during the latter and busier months of the year."

Freiburg, Germany. University of Freiburg. The German government has appropriated 460,000 marks for the construction of a library building for the University of Freiburg.

Liverpool (Eng.) P. L., Museums, and Art Galleries. (43d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Additions to lending libraries 1215; total 71,163; home circulation 579,243; vols. in reference libraries, 108,279; reference use 638,935 v., in addition to magazines and reviews 667,839; home readers 14,652.

The issue of books in the Picton Reading-Room, which is strictly the reference library, issuing no works of fiction, shows a decline of 14,426 v. during the year, while the higher-class reviews, scientific and literary periodicals show an increase of 15,854; total book issues 213,695 v.

"While most of the other classes show a decrease, Travels exhibit an increase of 919 v., the result in a great measure of the interest excited by political affairs in the Transvaal, Ashanti, and Venezuela. An increase has to be recorded in the issues under the head of Commerce and political economy by 1006 v. Since 1890 the issues in this class have nearly doubled." 48 free lectures were attended by 53,453 persons. The collection of books for the blind now numbers 570 v.

London. According to the *London Telegraph* it is proposed by the London School of Economics and Political Science to establish in that city a library of political science, "there being at the present time no place where the serious student of administrative or constitutional problems can find the material for his work." The *Telegraph* points out that neither the Brit-

ish Museum nor the libraries of the Colonial Institute and Statistical Society make a specialty of economics, or arrange systematically the vast number of pamphlets and reports dealing with the subject. "The result is that in any serious study of political science, and especially in the scientific investigation of public administration, England stands at present far behind the United States, France, Germany, and Italy. In all these countries the student who wishes to devote himself to such problems finds one or more centres of research, equipped with a considerable collection of the indispensable material. It is no exaggeration to say that some of the problems of political science most pressing in their importance to English administrators can be far better studied at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore (with its unrivalled Blüntschi collection of Swiss and other documents), or at Columbia College, New York, than anywhere in this country."

London, Guildhall L. The corporation of London has secured for the Guildhall Library the splendid philological and linguistic collection of the late Prince Lucien Bonaparte.

Madrid, Bibl. Nacional. On March 16 the new library building, of which the corner-stone was laid some 30 years since by Queen Isabella II., was opened to the public. The structure is 200 x 80 feet, the central building, of stone and iron, being seven stories in height. It contains 35 rooms. The public reading-room has 320 desks, while a smaller room, containing 12 desks, has been reserved for the consultation of rare books.

PRACTICAL NOTES.

THE BROWNE CHARGING SYSTEM. — Having been the first to adopt the charging system (described in the *L. J.*, May, 1895) devised by Miss Nina E. Browne, of the Library Bureau, the result of a year's experience may be of help to others who feel, as I did, much dissatisfaction with many of the old methods.

By this, all necessary statistics are obtained; how many times and by whom each book has been used, etc. Of the advantages to be gained, the greatest is time; only one stamping is required — that denoting when the book is *due*. This date, which cannot be gainsaid, serves as a reminder to the patrons, and the result is a prompter return of books. It also does away with the necessity of postals for overdue books. Another advantage, much appreciated by our patrons, is the relief from all care and responsibility — no card to care for; the only thing required of them being to look out for the date when the books are due, as the pockets, which take the place of the personal card, are on file at the library when not in use.

We use cards of 10 different colors to represent the classes, which makes fewer cards to look over; the color shows, at a glance, where to look for the book-card belonging to the date found in the back of the book returned.

MARY E. SARGENT.

Librarians.

BILLINGS, Dr. John Shaw. By order of the Emperor Francis Joseph the University of Pesth has been authorized to confer upon Dr. Billings the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine.

CHAMPLIN, George G., has accepted the position of indexer and cataloger in the New York State Board of Health, Department of Vital Statistics, Albany. He is a graduate of the New York State Library School, class of 1895.

DAVIS, Miss Mary L., has resigned her position as librarian of the Lawson-McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tenn., to accept a position in the Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N. Y. Her resignation will take effect July 1.

DIXSON, Mrs. Zella Allen, librarian of the University of Chicago, has returned to the library after spending some weeks in a tour through Mexico and California, visiting libraries and making an exhaustive study of their methods. She travelled over 1000 miles, visiting several hundred libraries, private as well as public, and has made a fine collection of library blanks and samples.

FORT, Miss, of Rome, N. Y., succeeds Miss Elizabeth Van Hovenberg, resigned, as librarian of the South Orange (N. J.) Free Library.

GADD, Col. Luther H. The snarl over the appointment of a librarian for the Maryland state library at Annapolis ended June 1, and in peace. Col. Gadd, the librarian, resigned, and Mrs. Anna Burton Jeffers at once took charge of the office.

As stated in the April *JOURNAL*, Mrs. Jeffers was appointed to the office on March 30, and Col. Gadd refused to give it up to her. Mrs. Jeffers was unable to contest in the courts the resistance of Col. Gadd. Owing to the lateness of Mrs. Jeffers's former appointment the state library committee refused to approve her bond, because they claimed that such an act on their part could be performed only when the legislature was in session. The governor then tried to prevail on Col. Gadd to resign, but the latter refused. Next the governor announced his purpose to remove Col. Gadd and to appoint Mrs. Jeffers in his place. Charges were to be filed against the colonel, among them the fact that he did not attend to the duties of the office himself, which the law requires. But Col. Gadd was willing to resign, provided the governor would permit him to name his successor. This the governor refused to do. Finally the colonel resigned, as stated, because, he said, the governor had prejudiced his case and because he could not appeal in the event of his removal. Col. Gadd was state librarian since May 1, 1892. He is a politician and was clerk of the courts of one of the Eastern Shore counties before going to Annapolis. He had been a candidate for Commissioner of the Land Office, but failing in that he accepted the state librarianship.

HARNETT, Mrs. L. K., who for two years was cataloger and librarian of the Seattle (Wash.) Public Library, is now in New York, where she is desirous of finding an opening in library work. Mrs. Harnett's resignation from the Seattle Library was a political measure, the provision that all "heads of city offices" should be voters being applied to the librarianship by the municipal authorities.

JENNINGS, Miss Alice, for two years past librarian of the Mattoon (Ill.) Free Public Library, has resigned her position, the resignation to take effect in August. She will be succeeded by Miss Ida Munson.

SANDERS, Mrs. M. A., librarian of the Pawtucket Free Public Library, has been officially notified of her appointment as a member of the State Board of Charities of Rhode Island.

Cataloging and Classification.

CARNEGIE L., *Pittsburg, Pa., Bulletin*, vol. 1, nos. 1-4, Jan.-April, '96, contains the books added to library in two lists, one by author and title, the other classified by general subjects. The issue for May (v. 1, no. 5), besides the usual lists of additions, contains the librarian's first annual report, with appendixes of donations, etc., and a reading-list of "Books on outdoor life."

CLERKENWELL (*London*) P. L. Class-guide to the historical, geographical, and biographical literature in the lending department. London, 1896. 188 p. 4d.

This is the second part of the revised catalog, now in preparation. It is a classified list, divided into 114 numbered sections, and prefaced by a subject index referring to section number and in some cases to author's name. The entries are quite short, including, however, date of publication, number of v., illustrations, maps, etc. Brief descriptive annotations are given where necessary, and care has been taken to indicate the recent and older literature on special subjects; "thus readers will learn that Kinglake's 'Eothen' and Livingstone's 'Missionary travels' are not recent works, as indicated by the title-page dates 1887 and 1875 respectively, but descriptions of events and countries about 60 and 50 years ago." In the section of Biography dates of births and deaths are given, with a word as to the profession and nationality of the subject. The "Guide" is prepared for use in connection with free access to the shelves; it includes all accessions in the classes covered up to March 6, 1896.

FITCHBURG (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for May contains the additions for March and April; also, as reference lists, such of the leading books for 1895 (the Albany list) as are in the library, books on the flora of New England, on birds and birds' nesting, insects, essays and studies, and nature stories for younger readers.

GRAND RAPIDS (*Mich.*) P. S. L. Special catalogue: industrial books, comprising works on the fine and useful arts, sciences, industries, domestic economy, etc., which will be of use to students, artists, architects, designers, engineers, mechanics, householders, and property owners. Supplement to the regular catalogue. 1896. 48 p. O.

Prefaced by the rules and regulations. A decimal classed catalog with list of periodicals and index of subjects appended. Well and clearly printed, firmly bound in boards, and perforated at the upper left hand corner so that it may be hung up for easy reference in workshops, factories, and public places.

LANE, W. C. Additions to the Dante collection in Harvard College Library. May 1, 1894-May 1, 1895. (In 14th annual report of the Dante Society. Boston, 1895.)

The MERCANTILE L. (*Philadelphia, Pa.*) *Bulletin* for April contains the accessions from Jan. 1 to April 1, and "Reading notes on Joan of Arc."

MILWAUKEE (*Wis.*) P. L. Quarterly index of additions, vol. 5, no. 39, June-Sept., 1895; no. 40, Oct.-Dec., '95, p. 153-203.

NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Monthly Bulletin* for May contains reference lists nos. 6 and 7 on "Venezuela" and "Memorial Day" respectively, and the additions to the library in April.

NEW HAVEN (*Conn.*) P. L. *Monthly Bulletin* for April contains a reference-list on "The Armenian question," that for May "References on Cuba and the revolution there."

NOTTINGHAM (*Eng.*) F. P. L. 1896 supplementary list of books in the central lending library. 25 p.

The OTIS L. (*Norwich, Conn.*) *Bulletin* for May has a reference-list on "Birds and flowers" and also a list of "Sea stories."

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for May is mainly devoted to special reading-lists on "Egypt and Abyssinia," seven columns, and "Roentgen's X rays," four columns.

SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for May contains reading-lists on "Memorial day" and "Botany."

SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* for May continues from the previous number the author-list of juvenile books, and also gives the seventh fiction-list of the Massachusetts Library Club. The selections of reading-matter are of unusual interest.

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Library bulletin, May, 1896. Accessions to the department library, Jan.-March, 1896. 16 p. Q.

WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for April continues the special list on Music, and also gives one on Geographical reading, recommended by the superintendent of schools for scholars' use.

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Dolley, C: Sumner, joint author (On reaction times and the velocity of the nervous impulse);

Raines, Cadwell Walton (A bibliography of Texas);

Sewell, James Witt, joint author (An English grammar);

Stiles, C: Wardell (A revision of the adult cestodes of cattle, sheep, and allied animals).

Bibliography.

ARMENIA. Greene, F: Davis. The rule of the Turk: a revised and enlarged edition of The Armenian crisis. N. Y., Putnam, 1896. c. 19 + 192 p. D. 75c; 40c.

Contains a short bibliography of five pages.

BANKS. Conant, C: A. History of modern banks of issue. N. Y., Putnam, 1896. c. 10 + 595 p. O. \$3.

Contains a five-page list of authorities.

FRENCH HISTORY. Thompson, Ja. Westfall. The development of the French monarchy under Louis VI., le Gros, 1108-1137. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1896.

Contains a bibliography of six pages, which is of special interest to historical students.

GREEN, Dr. S: A. Remarks on an early book catalogue printed in Boston, with other bibliographic matter. 8 advance pages from the current volume of the *Proceedings of the Mass. Hist. Society*.

"The library of the late Reverend Mr. Samuel Lee." Boston, 1693. 16 p. 8°. A facsimile of the title-page is given.

INTERNAL REVENUE TAXATION. Howe, F: C. Taxation and taxes in the United States under the internal revenue system; 1791-1895. N. Y., Crowell, 1896. c. 13 + 293 p. D. (Library of economics and politics, no. 11.) \$1.75.

The appendix contains a 5-p. bibliography.

LAKE SUPERIOR. Campbell, H. Colin. Exploration of Lake Superior: the voyages of Radisson and Groseilliers. [Milwaukee, H. E. Haferkorn,] 1896. 35 p. O. (Parkman Club publications, no. 2.) pap., 30 c. Contains a 1-p. bibliography.

LITHOGRAPHY. Grolier Club, N. Y. Catalogue of an exhibition illustrative of a cen-

tenary of artistic lithography, 1796-1896. N. Y., Grolier Club, 1896. il. 8°.

Contains an "Attempt at a bibliography" of lithography.

LONG ISLAND. Flint, Martha Beckée. Early Long Island: a colonial study. N. Y., Putnam, 1896. c. 9-549 p. net, \$3.50.

Contains (p. 530-538) a "list of books consulted" that will be helpful to students of the early history of the island.

MACCOLL, D. S. Miss E. M. MacColl's book-bindings: a new technique in tooling. In the *Art Journal*, May, 1896, p. 147-152. il.

The illustrations represent experiments mainly with the wheel-line along with a sparing use of stamps. Some of the effects are decidedly fine.

TAXIDERMY. Brown, Montagu. Artistic and scientific taxidermy and modelling. London, A. & C. Black, 1896, p. 421-453.

Comprises a "Bibliography of works treating wholly or in part upon taxidermy, or upon the preservation of various natural objects," except works on the preservation of insects. This bibliography is based on the second and third reports of the Society of American Taxidermists, and will prove very helpful to all interested in the subject.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Anthony Morehead is the pseudonym used by the late E: Rowland Sill in the *Century Magazine* and the *Overland Monthly*.

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Man Is. }	Man, Isle of,
Letters }	Letters
Middl-	
esex	

"Lessing On the lookout," was asked for by the person who wanted "The Laßcoon."

School-girl, to attendant: "Please give me Cicero's 'Natural decorum'" (*De natura decorum*).

A cross-reference, in the British Museum catalogue:

Ramaswamy, C. V., see Venkata Rāmasvāmi (Kāvali).

Venkata Ramaswamy Brahbin (Cavelly), see (Cavelly).

Cavelly Venkata Ramaswami, see Kāvali Venkata Rāmasvāmin, which is not to be found.

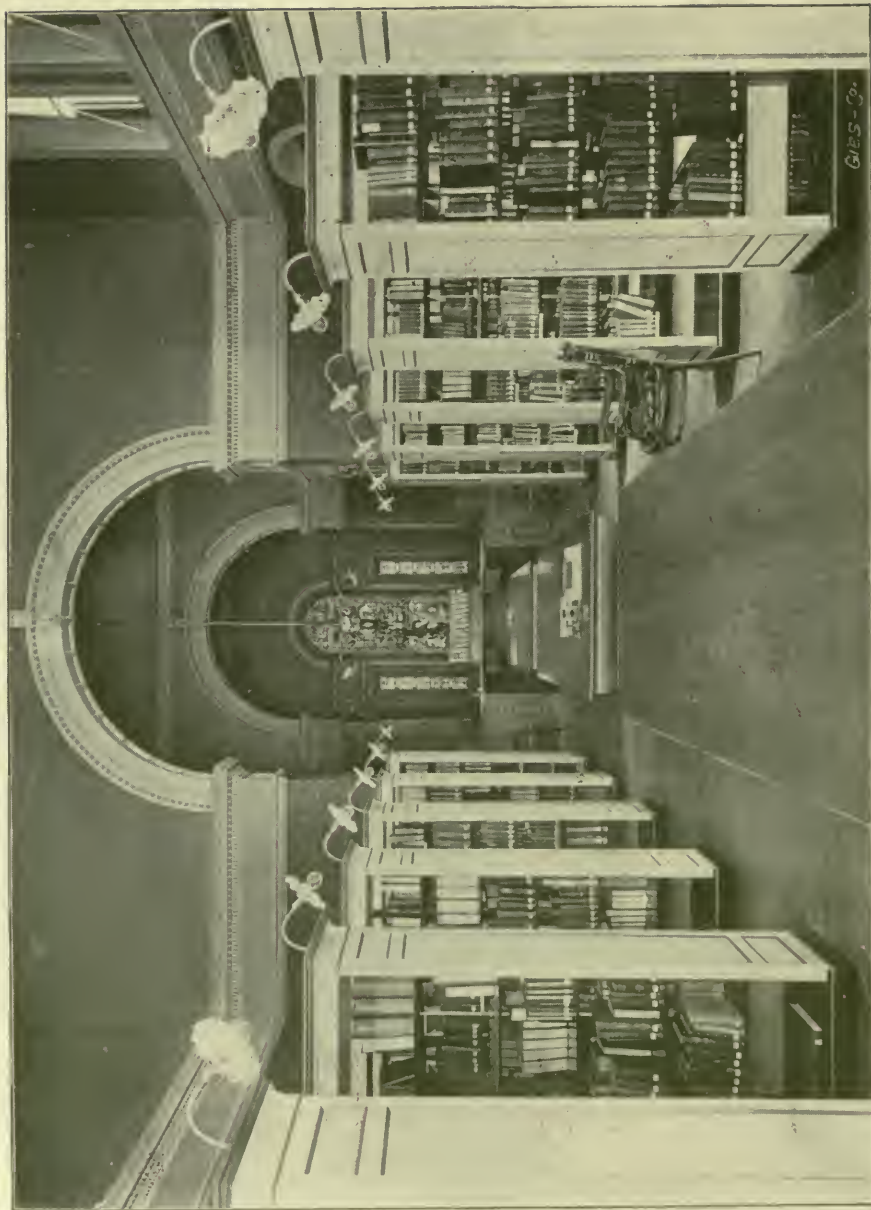
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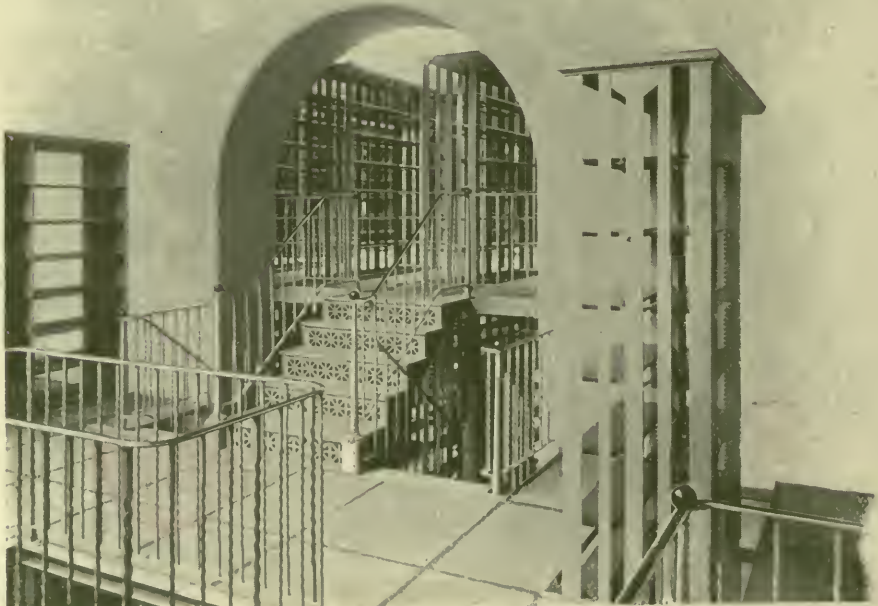


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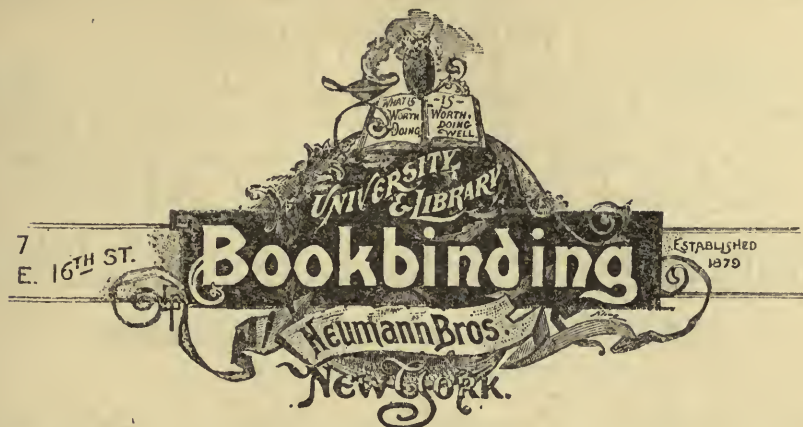
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JULY, 1896.

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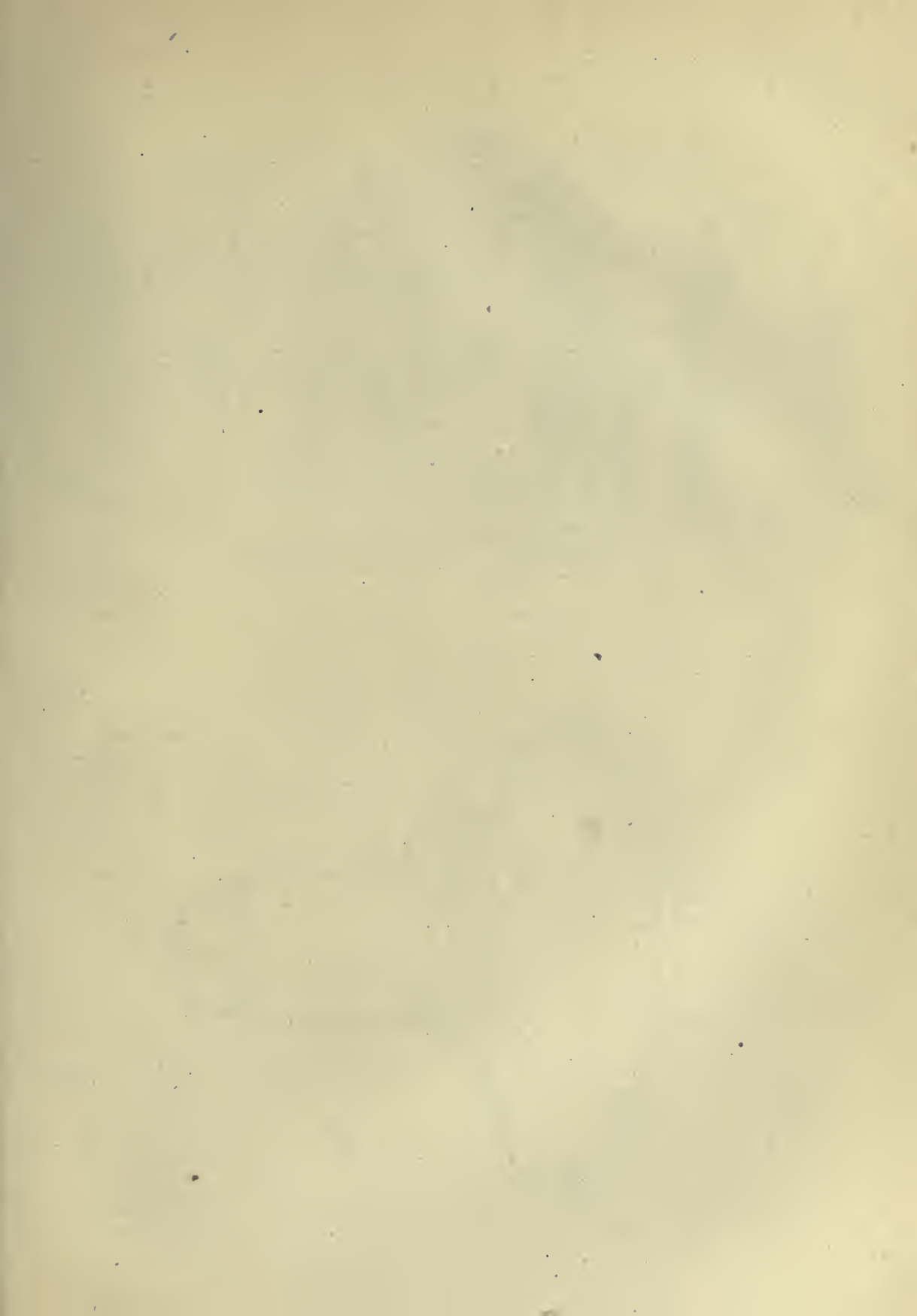
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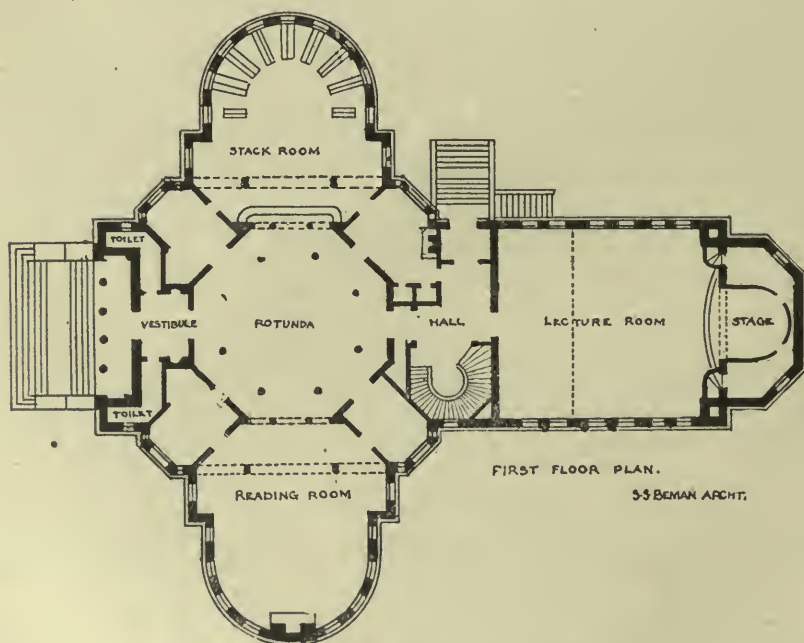
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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JULY, 1896.

No. 7

Ho! for Cleveland—and then ho! for Europe. There is every reason why the Cleveland conference should be a success—its central location geographically, as respects the library world, the excellent program which is offered, the hospitalities which may be expected from the Cleveland folk, and the delightful yet economical post-conference trip which has been planned. No better investment can be made, in time or in money, than in the three days or ten days of this outing, for the enthusiasm which comes always from a library conference is in itself a tonic for tired nerves and an addition to the working force of the coming year. This is why it pays trustees to send librarians at the expense of the library, and the time should come when this will be the general practice. On the other hand, librarians, though they cannot offer to pay the expenses of their trustees, should at least exhaust every other effort to bring their lords and masters, as it were, to the conference. No one can go from an A. L. A. meeting without new and higher views of the profession of the librarian and the function of the library as one of the real educational and civilizing influences of the time—despite all the criticism, which librarians themselves are the first to make, on the percentage of fiction read and on the waste of time in reading. Little more can yet be told of the arrangements for Europe, but we trust that at Cleveland everything will be in such shape as to enable librarians to form their plans definitely for 1897.

THE organization of a library section in the National Educational Association is welcome news, and should prove a potent factor in aiding and developing co-operative work between libraries and schools. Heretofore librarians have been the chief workers in this field, which offers such great and increasing possibilities, and if to their efforts is now added the systematic and earnest aid of teachers, the problem of how best to make the library a living force in the education of the child would seem in a fair way of solution. The officers of the new section are, for the start, chiefly library people, but their vigorous and effective work,

and the discussion of the subject at the Cleveland conference should strengthen this bond of union between the N. E. A. and the A. L. A. and will pave the way for future co-operative work on the part of teachers themselves, apart from the A. L. A. forces. The organization of this section in the N. E. A. should count as one of the notable events in the library chronicle of the present year.

THE condemnation of printed author catalogs that recently appeared in the Denver *Bookleaf* brings up a question of general cataloging interest. Mr. Dana speaks strongly of the futility of such lists, and advises the small library intending to print a brief finding list to issue an alphabetical list of titles, modifying the titles wherever necessary to make them indicate somewhat the contents of the book. It goes without saying that a classed list has features of practical usefulness which an author list has not, as it groups together the works on related subjects; but an exception must be taken to this recommendation of a list that is neither fish, flesh, nor fowl—author, title, or subject. A practical example of the proposed method has recently appeared in the catalog of the New York State Teachers' Library, noted elsewhere, and it shows at once the imperfections and disadvantages of the plan. A chief objection is naturally the difficulty of so modifying a title as to afford a clue to the subject of the book or keep together books on related subjects. The jumbled and unattractive appearance of such a list is another count in its disfavor; but the crowning objection lies in its fundamental construction—the omission of author-entries. It is probably true that most readers pay little attention to an author's name, and remember a book chiefly by title or subject; but this only adds to the educational value of an author list. The girl or boy who makes much use of a printed author list is not likely to allude to George Eliot or George Sand in the masculine gender, and is likely, after a time, to identify certain authors with certain subjects and to know books not only by their names but by their writers. An author-and title list of fiction, and a subject list, with author-entries, of

the remainder of the library, or, if that is too expensive, the issue from time to time of class lists of the various departments, would seem to be the best solution of the problem of how and what to print—even though it require more labor and a little more money than the semi-title, semi-subject list suggested as an alternative.

THE printing of catalog cards by the Library Bureau has resulted in mingled success and disappointment. The work, considering its difficulties, has been well done—much better than on any previous attempt to cover this ground. The Bureau has, however, found difficulty in obtaining the desired books from publishers with entire promptness and the subscription list has been disappointing, numbering but 49 subscribers, who take 59 sets. Most of these are large libraries, the New York State Library leading with a subscription for seven sets; six of them only are from the book trade, and scarce any from the smaller libraries. The Library Bureau has been ready to meet the exact desires of the several libraries and has printed even this small number on several varieties of cards, to match several different card catalogs. Since the beginning, Jan., '94, to and including June, '96, 12,322 cards have been printed, about 5000 cards a year, representing approximately one-third that number of books. The cost to subscribers has been from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{9}{10}$ of a cent per card, depending upon the kind of card ordered. This makes a cost of approximately \$37.50 to \$45 per year for a single set of cards. The work cannot be done for less money, and the price, it will be seen, is prohibitive for small libraries. In the libraries which use the cards about a third of the cards have been immediately available, of course saving to that extent the cost of cataloging, besides giving a card much preferable to any written card.

THE libraries using this system have replied to a circular sent to each, expressing in general their approval of the present plan, with some few suggestions for improvements, and approving also the proposed change of authority from the Bureau to the Publishing Section of the A. L. A., which is considering the proposal from the Bureau to turn over the preparation to it. Previous endeavors in this direction, such as *The Title-slip Registry*, which was a reprint, on one side of thin paper, of the weekly record of *The Publishers' Weekly*, intended to be cut out

and pasted on the cards, have shown a somewhat larger subscription list, because the price was much lower. No decision has yet been reached by the Publishing Section, which is endeavoring to work out a plan by which a select number of cards can be sent to small libraries which cannot afford the full set. Individual choice by different libraries of cards that they wish, is not practicable because of the cost of such individualistic selection. The alternative has also been proposed of printing only one card for a book, but supplying this in sufficient numbers to permit each library to make its own headings according to its own system. This would reduce the printing cost considerably. The experiment, after two years' handling, has come so near to success that it would be a pity should it not be continued.

Communications.

THE POOLE INDEX MOTTO.

I RECEIVED the other day from Europe a question as to the origin of the significant motto: "*Qui scit ubi sit scientia habenti est proximus*," ["Who knows where knowledge may be had is next to having it,"] which has appeared on the title-page of each edition of "Poole's Index," including that of 1848, when Dr. Poole was yet a student in Yale.

President Dwight, of Yale, who was a classmate of Dr. Poole's, informs me that "the tradition here is that James L. Kingsley (then Professor of Latin) furnished Mr. Poole with the motto, but that it has no classical origin." This statement may be worth publishing for the general information.

W. I. FLETCHER.

COLLEGE LIBRARY, }
AMHERST, MASS. }

LIBRARIES AND BICYCLES.

MR. BARDWELL'S inquiry as to the bicycle being responsible for a decrease of reading interested me greatly. During the past year, in which the bicycle fever has been higher than ever before, there has been a perceptible decrease in our circulation. And in one case at least, it seems not unfair to lay this decrease to the growing influence of the wheel. Our county roads are excellent, and prove most inviting to the cyclist (I speak from happy experience), and these cyclists form a large proportion of our population. Where the wheel has made its influence felt to such an extent as it has here, so that even a church gives a bicycle social, a decrease in the amount of reading done by the community may very reasonably be expected. The bicycle is being made responsible for a great deal, and it would seem that this also must be laid to its charge.

EMMA L. ADAMS.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, }
PLAINFIELD, N. J. }

BAD FEATURES OF PERIODICALS.*

BY H. CARRINGTON BOLTON.

Numbering volumes :

It is in the publishing of periodicals that editors sin most frequently and grievously against good form; some of the bad features that characterize periodicals are as senseless as they are provoking.

To give successive volumes consecutive numbers is so plainly expedient that it is passing strange to find occasional failures to carry this through. Here are a few notable cases:

The *Record of Patents* issued in Belgium (*Recueil spécial des brevets d'invention*, Bruxelles) has no volume numbered 31; vol. 30 was issued in 1883, and 32 in 1884, as a result of mere neglect to count correctly.

The *Petit Moniteur de la Pharmacie*, published at Paris, began in 1857, and its first volume bears the number VI., for the editor claimed his journal to be the successor of the *Petites Affiches pharmaceutiques*, established in 1851, notwithstanding the fact that the latter continued to be published by his former partner.

The consecutive volumes of the *Journal de l'École Polytechnique* are numbered in a most erratic way: Part I was issued in 1794; 2, 3, and 4 in 1795, 9 in 1797, 5 and 6 in 1798, followed by 12, 13, 14, 15, then 10 and 11, and vols. 7 and 8 did not appear until 1812.

Another French periodical has an annoying feature: the volume number of the title-page for the year does not coincide with the volume number on the separate parts.

Technical journals often adopt the vexatious plan of providing a title-page for the completed volume bearing different words from those on each weekly or monthly part, so that catalogers who examine only the bound volume might fail to enter the more familiar of the titles. Some journals have entirely different sub-titles on the colored paper cover and the white first page within.

Series :

The breaking up of a periodical running through a long series of years into "series" is another cause of perplexity not only to the librarian but to the scholar desirous of citing paragraphs from its pages. It would appear to be the ambition of each new occupant of the editorial chair to signalize his advent by be-

ginning a "new series, volume 1," disregarding the fact that a large volume-number indicates respectable antiquity. This division into series is too common to need illustration, but a few extreme cases will emphasize this unhappy feature.

The journal published by the Chemical Society of London was established as *Proceedings*, in 1843. After the issue of one volume the title was changed to *Memoirs and Proceedings*, in which form three volumes were published; it then became the *Quarterly Journal*, of which 14 vols. were issued. This was followed by *The Journal*, of which a single volume was published, when a "New series, vol. I.: Entire series, vol. XVI.," was begun. 13 additional volumes were issued, and then the editor seems to have been seized with an irresistible desire to start a "new series." This series is not numbered (actually it is the third), and it continued only long enough to contain two volumes, and then another new series was begun, also containing two volumes. This brings the journal to the year 1878, when still another series was begun which happily is still current.

The complications which result from having four different volumes each numbered "1." can be imagined. The editors, in 1878, gave to the preceding and current volumes the numbers of the entire series, beginning with 1841, and disregarded the individual series. Only in this way could references be intelligently made.

The editors of the *Archiv der Pharmacie* resorted to a similar expedient; thus vol. 27, 3d series, is followed by vol. 228, being the number of the entire series.

The *Natuurkundige Tijdschrift voor Nederlandsche-Indië* enjoyed seven series between 1850 and 1876, and the *Jornal de pharmacia*, published in Lisbon, begins a new series every four volumes, and is now (1896) in the tenth series.

To further mystify students, Germans adopt the ingenious plan of retaining the numbering of the first series of a periodical even after starting a second series, and assigning double numbers to each volume. In the case of the venerable and important *Annalen der Physik*, edited by Poggendorff, 1819 to 1877, each volume of the later series carries no less than three numbers — that of the first series, that of the second, and that of the third.

* Being Part 2 of the paper "Bad features of good books," read before the Library Association of Washington City, March 25, 1896.

When we consider the great disadvantages of these "series," the difficulties of reference and of indexing, and especially with these awful examples before our eyes, it does seem surprising that the enlightened editors of the *American Journal of Science*, established by Benjamin Silliman in 1818, should begin a "fourth series" in this very year 1896.

Librarians and catalogers often experience great difficulties in tracing the history of a journal through its changes of title and its many series, and rarely do they find any assistance on the title-pages or covers of the volumes. English journals often print on the current numbers the date of establishment, but American editors do not as a rule take this trouble, and to ascertain the dates at which series were begun, and the number of volumes in each, is nearly impossible without access to a complete file. A notable exception should here be named for the purpose of praising it and upholding it as an example: the Italian chemical journal, *Annali di chimica medico-farmaceutica*, conducted by P. Albertoni and I. Guareschi, published at Milan, prints on the title-page for 1885 the following exact information:

Vol. I. della Serie IV.

Vol. CXL. della Serie I (*Giornale di farmacia*).

Vol. LXXX. della Serie 2 (*Biblioteca di farmacia*).

Vol. LXXIX. della Serie 3 (*Annali di chimica applicata alla medicina*).

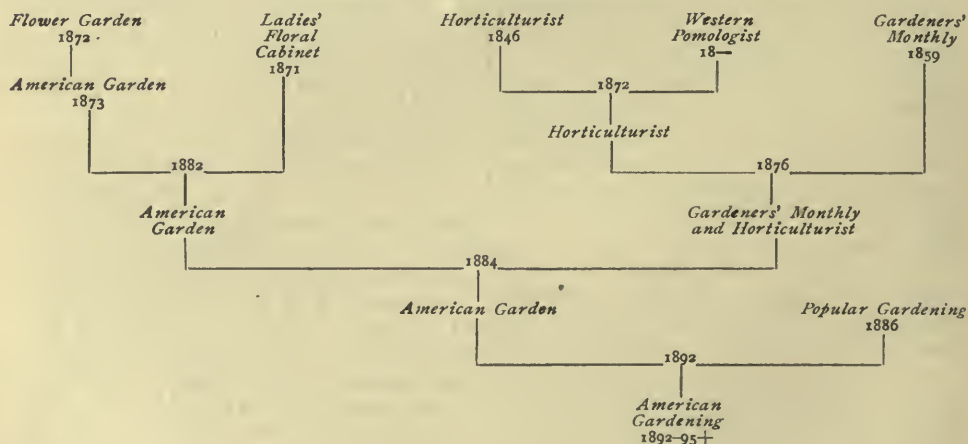
Changes of titles:

Closely connected with the division into series is the even more troublesome change in title; this is very frequent in American technical journals, and is due partly to the desire of new editors to effect a clean sweep, partly owing to absorption of rival journals which require representation in the title, and partly in hopes of reviving a languishing enterprise by issuing it under a new and more attractive name. A single example, and a particularly flagrant case, will suffice.

The *American Builder* had no less than four titles in two years. It is called the *American Builder* from January to March, 1893; the *Architectural Era* from April to November, and the *Builder and Woodworker* in December of the same year. Twelve months later, however, in December, 1894, it again changed its title to *Architect, Builder, and Woodworker*. Under this title the many-named journal appeared for 13 months, and at the end of this period it was merged in the *National Builder*, of Chicago; at last accounts it is called the *National Builder and Woodworker*, but it would not be surprising to learn of several more changes between the writing and the reading of this paper.

The ancestry of periodicals which result from the union of several may be graphically shown by drawing up a regular genealogical chart; *American Gardening* affords a good example:

PEDIGREE OF "AMERICAN GARDENING."



Irregularity of publication :

Even those periodicals which are not broken into series and which do not change their titles furnish another source of vexation to the librarian by great irregularities of publication. Beginning volumes in the month of December, or of February, preventing coincidence of the volume-year and volume-number, causes confusion. Learned societies in every country issue their transactions very irregularly, according to the supply of literary material; while this is reasonable, the editors do not take sufficient pains in numbering volumes and fractions of volumes, and often cause librarians hours of vexatious research—vexatious because unnecessary.

The publication of journals in parallel sections is confusing enough, but when these sections are broken up into series and these series do not terminate in the same year, the confusion becomes worse confounded; this is actually the case with the *Annales des sciences naturelles* in the two sections "Botanique" and "Zoölogie."

The English periodical entitled *The Entomologist* has the peculiarity of having been dormant for 22 years, being suspended from 1842 to 1864; since its resumption it appears with commendable regularity.

This irregularity in issue of scientific periodicals I have attempted to elucidate by compiling chronological tables showing the date of publication of each volume of about 500 journals; these tables accompany the "Catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals" published by the Smithsonian Institution in 1885, of which a new edition is now being prepared.

Change of size :

The change in size of a periodical, usually from an 8vo or 4to to folio, is a source of inconvenience to those keeping files. The change is sometimes made with good reasons and after careful deliberation; thus the long-published *Dingler's Polytechnisches Journal* recently changed from 8vo to sm. folio in order to secure larger pages for illustrations of plans and machinery.

The *American Builder*, named in the preceding paragraph, had the audacity to increase its size in the middle of a volume (in April, 1893); as that special volume had three titles, those binding it will find a large opportunity for contemplation.

Pagination :

Erratic methods of pagination abound; probably none is so extraordinary ("asinine" my friend called it) as that which obtains in the journal issued by the Entomological Society of Breslau, established in 1847: the *Zeitschrift für Entomologie*.

The first three "Jahrgänge" (or years) form together a small duodecimo volume, bearing the date 1847-49; the pagination runs as follows: 1 to 2; 1 to 6; 1 to 24; 3 to 4; 7 to 12; 25 to 40; 1 to 8; 13 to 14; 9 to 20; 41 to 52; 21 to 24; 15 to 18; 53 to 64; 19 to 26; 65 to 72; this closes the volume. Now the reason for this is as follows: the work treats in four different sections of (1) Administration of the society; (2) Lepidoptera; (3) Coleoptera; and (4) Diptera; these sections follow in irregular order, and each has an independent pagination. This amazing scheme extends through 6 vols. to 1852; vol. 7, for 1853, was never published; vol. 8, for 1854, begins as before, and continues until 1891. It is needless to say there is no index to this triumphant example of how not to do it. Perhaps our astonishment at the stupidity of the editor will be abated when we note that his name was Assmann.

Besides the bad features noted the publishers and editors of American technical journals indulge in vagaries that are not classifiable; these cannot be pointed out in detail in the limits of this paper. One example will suffice. Vol. 22 of the *Engineering and Building Record* has on its title-page the legend of the new series begun a month later, thus the running titles and the title-page do not agree.

Americans are by no means the only nation guilty of similar eccentricities. The *International Journal of Microscopy*, published at Bath, England, assigned wrong numbers to its successive issues in 1893 to '94, creating much confusion.

Owing to the difficulty of determining the date of the death of periodicals (for failure to receive the numbers by no means denotes cessation of publication), it is unfortunate that the editors do not make brief announcements of the final issue in the last number published. A few journals have had the grace to print their own obituary notices, to the great convenience of the bibliographer.

Having so frequently spoken deprecatingly of American technical journals, it gives me pleasure to mention with commendation a feat-

ure of the *Iron Age* for January, 1896. To commemorate the 40th year of its publication the editors give a summary of all its changes of title and of form, the dates of these changes, the number of volumes in each series, etc.; this is made clear by excellent reduced facsimiles of the first pages of each series.

Idiosyncrasies:

Every cataloger meets with idiosyncrasies of the publishers of periodicals that seem especially adapted to vex; I here name a few of recent experience:

A certain German journal changed its name of *Zeitschrift* to *Zeitung*, and soon after changed back again; the two words fall in different alphabetical positions.

More than one American technical journal is guilty of similar stupidity.

One German annual is published in two parts, and the second part has an independent title in addition to the comprehensive title.

Sewing and binding:

So long as the custom prevails in European countries of issuing books unbound, it is unfortunate that the manufacturers of these books do not sew the signatures more substantially. Handling a French quarto of 800 pages sewn with very fine thread inevitably leads to destruction even in most careful hands; and to part with a newly acquired volume for a ten days' sojourn at the bookbinder's is rather aggravating.

The damage done to books by careless binding, especially by mixing up signatures, by close trimming, etc., has been fully discussed by Blades in his pleasing essay on the "Enemies of books."

The question of binding is here referred to the Grolier Club, of New York City, whose

members are connoisseurs in this branch of the fine arts.

Defects in lettering:

Not only is binding an important factor in the make-up of books, but lettering is too often carelessly done. Sometimes the chief words of the title are not well chosen; sometimes the date is omitted on a periodical when the volume number is given, and *vice versa*; again, thin volumes are occasionally lettered lengthwise from head to tail, instead of from tail to head, making it difficult to read the titles on the shelves. There can be no excuse for omission of catch-letters on the volumes of encyclopedias, yet some works so arranged are met in every library.

Pamphlets, covered with paper only, should have brief titles lengthwise on the backs to facilitate reference. College catalogs too generally omit this, and it is necessary to take from the shelf a whole row of pamphlets in order to find the one desired. Parts of periodicals should also be distinctly lettered, and the paper cover changed in color at the end of each volume to prevent confusion.

As has been shown, these "bad features of good books" are not confined to any age nor to any nation; only a tithe of them have been here indicated, and my hearers will remember special idiosyncrasies of books that have passed through their hands, greatly swelling the list.

Finally I feel that this sketch of some bibliographical blemishes contains little that is novel, and that it should be presented to an assembly of the guilty publishers and ignorant editors rather than to an audience of those who are sufferers from the defects narrated.

THE LINE OF EXCLUSION.*

BY WALTER LEARNED, *Trustee New London (Ct.) Public Library.*

I AM told that there is a dance that enjoys some popularity in that section of the world vaguely known as The East, called the Egg Dance. I am further informed that the performer in this popular dance strews the stage on which he is to dance with unbroken and presumably fresh eggs. It is his task to foot his intricate steps over this egg-strewn stage without breaking an egg. My task in treating of the line of exclusion from the public library

of books on moral and ethical grounds seems to me to resemble this dancer's, with the added difficulty that I am in serious doubt as to the quality of the eggs and have therefore most painful apprehension as to the possible result of a misplaced step.

I think it may be safely assumed that the books in a free public library should not be limited to those which are fitted to the young and immature mind. To so limit it would be to exclude from the public library much that is important in English literature, much that is

* Address delivered at meeting of Connecticut Library Association, May 30, 1896.

vital to it, much that is proper and healthy reading for the adult.

One could hardly recommend the reading of Sterne to the young and immature, and yet one could hardly venture to exclude his works from the public library. No one could deny the place of Shakespeare in the public library. The very idea of such an exclusion is too absurd to consider. And yet modern publishers issue an expurgated edition especially fitted for the reading of the young.

Shall we in our public libraries have both editions or only one? If we have but one, which one shall we have? If we have both, what shall be our rule concerning their delivery to the public?

I have suggested this as one of the most patent cases in which occasional coarseness of expression might seem to suggest a doubt; but the same doubt might arise concerning the Old Testament, frankly a book which, could we ignore its religious character, is not in places fitted to the comprehension and reading of the young.

Concerning such books and their place in public libraries the most rigid of critics have no doubt. And yet their admission complicates the subject and makes the line a more difficult one to draw, since from such books as these the transition is an easy one, while the line of demarkation is a somewhat difficult one to draw, through various shades of coarseness to the frank licentiousness of the dramatists of Queen Anne's time. Plainly here there is and can be no well-defined rule. Wycherly, Congreve, and Vanbrough have their distinct place in English literature. No library, public or private, that assumed to be representative in its character could afford to be without them. They are important, they are almost necessary books for the student of English literature. At the same time they are worse than useless reading for the immature and the young. Shall we admit them, or shall we keep them out? The consideration of this problem recalls to my mind the story of a professor of Oriental languages who once asked at the Public Library in Boston for a book in the Persian language. After reading it quietly for an hour or more he returned it to the librarian with this remark, "I consider this a very dangerous book to fall into the hands of the young." Plainly the works of the dramatists of the days of Queen Anne will not fall into the hands of the young unless their improprieties are advertised in such a paper as this.

It is a misfortune that we in the public library cannot depend upon the watchful care of the parent in these matters. But we who are responsible for the public library and its work — a great and vital responsibility — know that we cannot. To guard such books as I mention, to admit them as we wish, to limit their reading as we should, we must depend upon the watchful care of the librarian. And here our course must be deftly steered between the Scylla of too free admission and the Charybdis of prurient exclusion.

Certainly one may say that there are certain books proper to the student of literature which should be either excluded from the public library or, if admitted, should be guarded with the greatest possible care. I mean such books as the "Decameron" of Boccaccio, the "Heptameron" of Queen Margaret, or the works of Rabelais, whose improprieties are so well known as to make them dangerous. I have spoken about these books and others of their kind as being proper reading for the student of literature. But here I should closely define that term. There is a vast amount of pure and wholesome literature to be read before one need delve in the filth of Rabelais to extract his gems of thought, which are to me like Gratiano's reasons, "Two grains of wheat hid in two bushels of chaff; you shall seek all day ere you find them, and when you have them they are not worth the search."

Wherefore, from all except the largest public libraries I should exclude all of the three last-mentioned works; holding the opinion that those for whom they are proper reading (and I believe the number to be a very small one) can find them elsewhere or will not materially suffer from the loss. Thus far I have touched upon what is coarse in literature, and even here the line is not an easy one to draw. Even here it depends on individual opinion, and one cannot make an easy rule which will serve for us all.

But the difficulty is vastly increased when one considers not only the matter but the ethical purport of the work. Certainly neither history nor fiction can deal honestly or truly with the world as we know it without taking into account temptation, failure, and crime. The question of ethical purport is one of point of view.

Some of the sweetest and purest of novels deal with crime, and with crime of a gross character; crime which viewed from some other

point of view would hardly be proper literature for the average reader of the public library. One of the main incidents in the story of "David Copperfield" is the seduction and desertion of a young and innocent girl. Who would keep it from the reading of a child? The ethical teaching of the novel is distinct, the point of view is pure, and there is no prurient emphasis of detail.

Concerning this point of view there are almost as many opinions as there are individuals. To illustrate what I mean, let me call your attention to the fact that the novels of Charles Dickens are fairly saturated in alcohol. I know hardly any English writer who has so glorified the use of intoxicants. The noblest and best of his characters use them freely, and indeed in his novels good-fellowship seemed impossible without them. And yet I have never heard the works of Charles Dickens criticised on that account. His ethical aim was high, his point of view was pure. And it is thus, I think, we must regard the works of fiction that clamor for admission to our shelves. Plainly our greatest trouble will be—regret it as we may, disguise it as we may—that the vast use of the public library is in this field.

In no other department need we be troubled by our line of exclusion. But here most of us are troubled and puzzled. No safe and rigid line can be drawn. The whole question is left to individual judgment, and any and all decisions in the matter must present apparent glaring inconsistencies which cannot be reconciled by the most specious arguments.

To what extent, if to any, should thoroughly good artistic work excuse bad or faulty ethics?

Shall we exclude artistic work on account of its ethical purport?

The question can only be suggested and not answered in a paper like this. Let me speak to you freely about certain books which may serve to illustrate the point which I am trying to make. No one, I think, can deny the high artistic quality of the work of Thomas Hardy. Some of his shorter sketches, notably one called "The three strangers," seems to me as strong as anything that has been done in our day, and yet we exiled from the shelves of our public library the story of "Tess: a pure woman."

Let me tell you an anecdote concerning this exile.

Soon after we had taken it out of the library I was lunching at a club in New York with three or four men whose line of work

was distinctively literary. One of them was a bright and well-known critic. Partly for the sake, perhaps, of stimulating an argument, I said that we in the Public Library of New London had just taken "Tess" from our shelves. There was, as I expected, a loud outcry against Philistinism and Puritanism. To a man the little coterie upheld and praised the book. I waited and listened. Then I turned to the clever critic, whose name we will call Jones, as that was not his name, and said, "So you liked the book, Jones, did you?"

Again he became eloquent in its praise.

Now Jones has, and it is my privilege to know her, a charming daughter of about 17. And so I said, "And how did Ethel like the book, Jones?"

"Ethel?" he exclaimed. "Do you think I let Ethel—" and here he stopped, seeing the inevitable conclusion.

"No," I said, "I am quite sure that you did not want Ethel to read the book. And we, upon whom the responsibility for the selecting of books in public libraries rest, have other Ethels to think of, whose parents may not guide their reading as wisely and judiciously as you."

Frankly, it is concerning modern fiction that we find our greatest difficulty. Fashions change and books go out of date, so that the volume which 40 years ago was of necessity guarded may to-day be safely placed on the open shelf. Not that it is any better now than it was then but that nobody cares about taking it out, save, perhaps, some student for whom it is proper reading. I remember an engraving which enjoyed considerable popularity some years ago. It was a mezzotint in the days of "Annuals" and "Friendship's offerings," when mezzotints were popular. It was called "The forbidden volume," and it represented three young women in a library, one guarding the closed door while the two others were deep in an open book. It was popularly believed at that time that the volume was Byron's poems. Certainly they are not now verses which we should recommend for the reading of the young. To tell the truth, a good part of them were pretty bad from a moral point of view. And yet, judging from the standpoint of my own experience, this volume is not one of the books which trouble us in considering this line of exclusion; and we admit it because we are quite sure that only those persons will read it who may properly read it. And so even here the element of novelty becomes a factor.

There are now and then books which could be safely admitted five years after their publication but which it would be unwise to put into general circulation while everybody is talking about them. Of course, this sounds very inconsistent, but it is impossible, at least for me, to treat this subject consistently.

Judging the matter from my standpoint, our elements of distress are the modern novel and the modern young woman. It may appear ungallant, but observation would incline me to believe that the young man is not our trouble. Possibly you may say he reads but little, and I am rather inclined to think that from the ages of 15 to 20 a larger proportion of young women than of young men use the public libraries. The boy reads stories of adventure, with a tendency to go to seed in the direction of the dime novel.

Whether it be that in matters that concern sentiment the young woman matures earlier, or whether her lack of experience in the affairs of the world excites her curiosity, I do not know. Observation would seem to teach me that she is more prone to read the morbid and hysterical novel than the young man. It is then largely for her sake that in this field we must exercise judicious care. And here the question resolves itself into one of ethical purpose and point of view, and the greatest scope has to be left to individual judgment.

The tendency of the modern English novel and short story is toward epigrammatic expression and a certain brilliant but somewhat cold glitter. It dazzles, but it does not illuminate; it fires, but it does not warm. It sneers at the good Samaritan and to some extent sympathizes with his robbers. Virtue and unselfishness do not count for much. The good woman is the weak one; it is only the unprincipled woman who is brilliant. Dulness goes hand in hand with virtue, and ability is the boon companion of vice. There is an insinuation that morality is but a thin varnish that can deceive only the dullest intellect, that we are all hypocrites at heart. Now I believe that human nature is so imperfect that we all of us fall far short of our ideal of true living. But I venture to think that most of us have an ideal for the attainment of which we constantly and imperfectly strive. Without it life would seem to be but a poor and empty thing.

It is this test that I would apply to modern fiction and it is from this standpoint that I

would draw the line of exclusion. The highly romantic novels which Pomona painfully spelled out may have been poor literature from a purely literary standpoint, but they did not injure her morals. I would not grudge the Pomonas of the public library these temporary excursions into a gilded aristocracy if it relieves the drudgery of a work-a-day life. Pomona will not read George Eliot and cannot read George Meredith. I am not distressed that she likes Mary J. Holmes and the Duchess and rises to her highest flight in E. P. Roe. I am distressed when the young woman in whose house Pomona is maid-of-all-work passes by Dickens as old-fashioned, Thackeray as antiquated, George Eliot as didactic, to batten on the hot-house productions of some modern writers. And I protest against that pseudo-realism which prides itself upon knowing that temptation is rife, that human nature is imperfect, and that teaches nothing else. And here would I draw the line. Better a thousand times the optimism of Dickens, that transforms Scrooge by a dream; better the kindly cynicism of Thackeray, that made Col. Newcome, the truest gentleman in English literature, die a pensioner at the hospital of Gray Friars; better, ah! how much better, the publican standing afar off and crying, "God be merciful to me, a sinner!"

Plainly in the exercise of our task we who are selecting for the public library must be guided by other rules than those which would guide us in the selection of our own; here denying books that we would take, there taking those that we should not want.

If the school-house and the church made New England, the public library preserves it. Think to what extent we who meet here control the reading of the people of the state. He is fortunate indeed who can so live that the world may be made wiser and better through his life. No life can be wasted or misspent that attains such results, and this happy possibility is ours. Each institution represented here exerts in its community a mighty though silent influence, greater, I fancy, than even some of us imagine. We cannot often err in this line of exclusion if we are alive to this responsibility.

Somebody, I do not know who, once said before the days of modern scientific whist, "When in doubt, play trumps." The maxim for the public library in this regard might well read — "When in doubt, leave it out."

THE FREEDOM OF BOOKS.*

THE free town library is wholly a product of the last half-century. It is the crowning creation of democracy for its own higher culture. There is nothing conceivable to surpass it as an agency in popular education. Schools, colleges, lectures, classes, clubs, and societies scientific and literary, are tributaries to it—primaries—feeders. It takes up the work of all of them to utilize it, to carry it on, and make more of it. Future time will perfect it, and will perfect the institutions out of which and over which it has grown; but it is not possible for the future to bring any new gift of enlightenment to men that will be greater, in kind, than the free diffusion of thought and knowledge as stored in the better literature of the world.

The last half of the 19th century would seem to be a late time in history for realizing this freedom of books. For if we consider we must see that there is no other earthly thing, except the solid earth itself and its water and its air, that is so truly and plainly a common heritage of mankind as the matter of the books that have come down from past times. If there were heritable rights in the whole public to some great store of bodily food, and they were half as clear as its heirship to these meats of the spirit and the mind, we may be sure that its claim to them would never have slept so long. Suppose that in every generation there had been given to a few men and women some endowment of extraordinary power, which perpetuated life without decay and fruitfulness without ceasing in each seed and each root that was put into the earth by their hands, so that harvests from their sowing were perennial to the end of time, and that people to-day were gathering grapes from vines that had ripened the same fruit for the Pharaohs! Can we doubt that such a cumulative ancestral gift as that would have been made common property, with equal free sharing, long ages ago? But the nature of our literary inheritance from the past is precisely that. The true literature that we garner in our libraries of books is the deathless thought, the immortal truth, the imperishable quickenings and revelations which genius—the rare gift to now and then one of the human race—has been frugally, steadily planting in the fertile soil of written speech, from the generations of the hymn-writers of the Euphrates and the Indus to the generation now alive. As I look at it, there is nothing save the air we breathe that we have common rights in so sacred and so clear, and there is no other public treasure which so reasonably demands to be kept and cared for and distributed for common enjoyment at common cost.

If we marvel at the tardiness with which even the foremost peoples have recognized their literary inheritance and the common rights and duties attaching to it, we do but rejoice the more that they have come to the rec-

ognition at last. In my belief it is the keystone now slipping to its place in the slowly rounded arch of our modern civilization. Free education and free books in a free democracy—that is the system of an enduring social structure. The future may put carvings of wonderful beauty upon our arch, and build temples and palaces and towers that rise to heaven upon it; but what we do now is the work that will have given solidity and security to the whole.

Free corn in old Rome bribed a mob and kept it passive. By free books and what goes with them in modern America we mean to erase the mob from existence. There lies the cardinal difference between a civilization which perished and a civilization that will endure.

J. N. LARNED.

LIBRARIES AS BUREAUS OF INFORMATION.*

THE ideal library is one which invites everybody who has a question to ask, which books contain answers to, to come to the library and put his question, with the assurance that he will be kindly received, his question sympathetically considered, and every effort made to find the answer desired.

I cannot better illustrate what I mean by saying that libraries should be bureaus of information than by giving instances of inquiries recently made in the library under my charge and explaining how those inquiries were met. I will select questions which were answered by sending out of town for books, and thus illustrate in addition the fact that libraries administered on advanced principles help one another.

A man came to me not long since and asked by what means he could dissolve a certain gum which he mentioned. I had the United States Dispensatory brought. The man did not find the answer wished for in that work, but did find a reference to a volume of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*. We did not have a set of that periodical; so I said that I would send away to borrow the desired volume. I sent to the librarian of the medical library in Boylston place, Boston, for it. He sent it to me immediately by express. That volume contained some of the information desired by the inquirer, but not all that he wanted. There was another volume of the same periodical which he thought would contain the facts which he was in search of. I sent for that, promising to return both volumes at once. The second volume was immediately received. That contained just what was wanted.

By doing work like this a librarian may do much to add to the prosperity of the industries of a town.

Another man came to me to inquire whether we had a catalog of a certain southern society which purported to do hospital work.

* Part of an address delivered at the Syracuse meeting of the N. Y. L. A., May 29, 1896.

* Part of an address delivered at the dedication of the Hoston Free Public Library Building, North Brookfield, Mass.

I found that we had no catalog of the society named. It appeared that the applicant for information had been asked to contract to do \$4000 worth of work for a society of the name mentioned and wished to learn something about its standing. I told him that if I were in his place I should write to a gentleman in Washington, whose name I gave him, who knows all about medical institutions and hospitals throughout the country, to ask him about the society; I offered to write, myself, as the applicant felt timid about writing.

I did write and soon had the answer that the correspondent would advise the Worcester man to be very cautious about entering into a contract, for he knew nothing about the existence of such a society. I hope that I helped to save a Worcester business man from loss on this occasion.

Again, a boy who came into Worcester to school called at the library to ask me what I could tell his brother about a school for instruction in tanning leather in Freiberg, Saxony. Did it receive Americans? what was the cost of attending its sessions? what was its curriculum? etc., were questions asked.

I had no pamphlet to give the required information, but suggested that the Commissioner of Education at Washington be written to, to find out what information could be found in the library of his office. I found that it would be necessary for me to write the letter; so I wrote it. Soon the answer came giving the information desired and stating the address of the school. The answer was passed over to the applicant, with the suggestion that if further information were desired he should write to the officers of the school.

I remember doing much to start in her studies a resident of Worcester who has since become a distinguished Russian scholar, by helping her to get a Russian-German dictionary from abroad and by borrowing Russian books for her to read from Harvard College Library.

Three students of the Chinese language have received assistance at my library, one a missionary at home on leave, the other two students under the late Chinese professor of Harvard University, from dictionaries and other books borrowed for their use.

I have had occasion to hunt up books in the language of the Esquimaux for the use of an investigator in Worcester. I could not find the books in the libraries of Harvard University or Columbia College, and tried the libraries of other centres of learning without success, when I remembered that Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull, the well-known Indian scholar and historical student, had brought together a fine collection of philological works in the Watkinson Library at Hartford, Connecticut. The librarian of that library wrote me after a few days, saying that he had the books and would send them at once. He apologized for not despatching them before, saying that the library did not allow books to be taken out. He had waited to consult the president. The president had said that they must set aside the rule if Mr. Green and the library in

Worcester wanted the books, for it was evident that they were needed for some important purpose. We got the books and they were used in the preparation of a learned paper.

Now, for closing illustrations, let me show you how libraries at great distances help one another. I will choose the relations of the library in Worcester to the Public Library of Denver, Colorado. Mr. Dana, the librarian of that library, tent to me to borrow one of the publications of the Browning Society of London. It was sent to him by registered mail and returned, safely, in the same way.

Next he wanted, for some student of mining, an extract from one of the volumes of the *Comptes Rendus* of the French Academy. The extract was copied from the volume and sent to him. There has since occurred the following transaction. A gentleman in Chicago had written to Mr. Dana, in Denver, to ask him whether he knew of a translation of the report of a government railroad commission in Holland which had recently been engaged in considering what kinds of paint are best to use in preserving iron, and whether he could tell him where to find the results of certain experiments which had been made in one of the bureaus of the U. S. Navy Department. Mr. Dana passed along the question to me, knowing that I had often to answer questions of that kind. In order to find an answer to the first question, I at once set a young man at work looking at the indexes of the late volumes of the *Railroad and Engineering Journal*, and soon an important article was unearthed giving the results of the investigations of the Dutch commission. This piece of information was sent to Denver. I then wrote to Mr. Henry C. Baird, the Philadelphia publisher, to see if he knew of the publication of a translation of the report. He wrote back that he did not know of the publication of such a translation, but that there was a long article on paints useful in the preservation of iron in one of the most recently issued volumes of Spon's "Receipts." He promised, however, to make further inquiries. So he went to the rooms of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences and inquired there what gentleman in the city was most likely to have the information sought for. He was referred to some one connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., who told him that he was not aware that the report had been translated, but referred the inquirer to an elaborate article extending through several numbers of the well-known periodical, *Iron*. Mr. Baird transmitted the information he had got to me and I sent it and other pieces of information gained since my last letter to the library of Denver. The information sent to Denver was sent to Chicago. So by the aid of two far separated librarians a person in Chicago, an intermediate city, distant from the homes of both, received information which he desired through Denver, Worcester, Philadelphia, Worcester, and Denver. For an answer to his second question, this inquirer from Chicago was referred to the Navy Department at Washington.

A clergyman in Colorado Springs, and this is

a final illustration, applied to the librarian of the same Public Library in Denver for an old book by Goldwin Smith. He referred him to me. I knew him, having met him on my way to California. To my surprise I found we did not own the book. So I wrote to Mr. Winsor, the librarian of Harvard University, and told him that the applicant could be trusted and would make good use of the information afforded him, and that he needed the book in preparing a course of lectures which he was to give at once at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Then I asked Mr. Winsor if he felt at liberty to lend the book. The next thing I heard in regard to the matter, a letter came from the gentleman in Colorado Springs thanking me for the aid rendered, and saying that Mr. Winsor had sent the book and that it had reached him just in time to use in preparing a lecture. The library in the United States which was earliest in the field in doing the work of lending to other libraries systematically and on a large scale, in so far as I know, was that of the Surgeon-General's Office in Washington, long administered so intelligently and with so keen an eye for usefulness by Dr. John S. Billings.

Now, how can libraries in towns of the size of North Brookfield become bureaus of information?

Let them approach as nearly as they can to the ideal of seeing to it that everybody needing information gets it.

The first thing to do is to let it be understood that a library desires to have inquirers come to it for information, and that its librarian is ready to take time to find out whether the library contains books which will give the information desired.

If it does not have the needed books, the librarian tries to think where they can be had. Does anybody in town own them? If not, can they be had from a library in a neighboring town?

If these resources are not adequate, then let the librarian send to the nearest largest centre to borrow books from the library there to answer the questions asked. Worcester would be the natural centre for North Brookfield to send to.

Individuals should not send to Worcester, but the librarian, having exhausted resources at hand, should send for the books, the library agreeing, of course, to make good damage and loss and pay the cost of carriage. An out-of-town librarian does not know the individual users of a library in a smaller town, but the librarian in that town does know his constituency and for whom it is safe to borrow books. Libraries should lend to one another, but the work of lending should be systematic.

As a member of the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, I wish to say that the commission likes to come into close contact with the libraries of the state, and that the smaller libraries may from time to time find it helpful to put questions to its chairman at the state house in Boston, in person, through a representative, or by letter, about library administration.

People are breaking away from their leaders to-day. There is an immense amount of crude thought and imperfect information in every community. I verily believe that not least among the instrumentalities by which thought may be matured and knowledge completed are public libraries when administered as bureaus of information by accomplished and earnest librarians, who will act as sympathetic friends and advisers to inquirers and help them to look at all sides of questions and form well-grounded judgments.

S: S. GREEN.

THE BLACKSTONE LIBRARY, BRANFORD, CT.

THE memorial library building given to the town of Branford, Ct., by Timothy Blackstone, of Chicago, in remembrance of his father, James Blackstone, of Branford, was formally presented to the town officials on Wednesday, June 17. The exercises, which were held in the library building, opened in the morning with singing, recitations, etc., by the school-children of the town. Then followed an address by Rev. M. K. Bailey, of Grace Church, New York, and the children then flocked over the building, admiring and inspecting it. At noon the dedicatory service proper took place in the building. The opening address was by ex-Senator E. F. Jones, of Branford, president of the local Literary Association. Prayer was offered by President Dwight, of Yale University, and Lynde Harrison, of Branford, read a "Monograph on James Blackstone and his family." Prof. A. T. Hadley, of Yale, then spoke on "The library as an educational force." He said in part:

"What does the public library do for the people?"

"First, it gives them a means of spending their leisure hours in rational enjoyment. Some people who look at library statistics shake their heads when they find how large a percentage of the books used by the public is made up of novels and other works of fiction. Yet this is by no means an unmixed disadvantage. Most of us have all the work that is good for us in in the routine of our daily life. If we tried to read books for improvement rather than for enjoyment, we should often hurt our bodies more than we helped our minds. For a large majority of people who use a public library, the first essential of reading is that it shall interest them. Even if the fiction with which they begin is not of the highest grade, pleasure in one book leads to pleasure in others, and before many years have passed the readers find themselves securing enjoyment and improvement together.

"In the second place, the development of the reading habit increases the productive efficiency of the community. Every hour that a man spends in a library instead of in a saloon is so much addition to the available working power of the nation. Every hour that he spends in pleasures which make him stronger instead of weaker means that he can render increased in-

stead of diminished public service in the future.

"Third and last, the use of the public library contributes to good citizenship. It will continue to do for the man or woman what the school has begun for the boy or girl. We must not only be able to read, but we must exercise that ability. We must not only be able to count, but we must take within the grasp of our mental vision the large figures and boundless distances involved in the social and national life of the present generation. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that the library stands in the same position to the political and social problems of the 20th century that the school stood in toward the political problems of the 19th."

Music by the Carol Club, of Branford, was interspersed through the exercises, which closed with the benediction, delivered by Dr. Devitt. In the afternoon there was a banquet, and in the evening the library was illuminated and thrown open for public inspection. Mr. Blackstone did not attend the ceremonies, giving as his reason that it would not be proper to hear himself praised.

The Blackstone Library is one of the finest buildings of its kind in Connecticut, and, for that matter, in New England. It was given to the town by Mr. Blackstone as a result of a movement for a public library begun by some prominent citizens in 1893. A letter appealing for funds for this purpose was sent to Mr. Blackstone, who is a native of Branford, though for years past he has been a resident of Chicago, and his reply to it was an agreeable surprise to the local library committee. He requested the privilege of being allowed personally to give the town a library building, on condition that it should be a memorial to his father—a condition that was at once accepted. A board of trustees was promptly appointed, and ground was broken for the building in November, 1893, on a fine central site facing the public square. The library was designed by S. S. Beman, of Chicago, one of the five architects of the World's Fair, and it has cost \$300,000; it is classic in style, save for a renaissance dome, and is built of white Tennessee marble, the interior being in imported marble. The first floor is reached by a broad and imposing flight of steps, opening upon a marble vestibule which in turn opens on the grand rotunda. The rotunda extends the height of of the building, terminating in the great dome, which is supported by eight columns of pink Tennessee marble. Opening from the rotunda on the left is the stack-room and delivery-room, and on the right is the reading-room, while in the corners of the rotunda are librarian's office, cataloging-room, and reference-room. Opposite the main entrance is a lecture-hall, 62 x 44, seating 700 persons. The second floor contains a gallery, finished in bronze, extending around the rotunda, three art galleries, dressing-rooms, and trustees' room. The basement contains a gymnasium, not yet fully equipped, unpacking and storage rooms, heating apparatus, etc. The building is lighted

throughout by electricity, and is thoroughly fireproof. The finishings and detail work of the library are most rich and beautiful. Especially notable is the great dome, which has been decorated by O. D. Grover, of Chicago, with eight mural designs illustrating the history of book-making from the earliest times to the present day. Indeed, the whole structure is one of the most magnificent of recent library buildings. Mr. A. W. Tyler, formerly of the Wilmington (Del.) Institute Library, is librarian, and Miss S. C. Nelson is assistant librarian.

LIBRARY ADVERTISING.

MR. CRUNDEN sends the following artful dodger, of which he is making effective use in the present dull season, and which certainly offers a most alluring display of "summer bargains":

TO THE PARENTS OF ST. LOUIS.

Do You Want your children to use their time profitably and pleasantly during the summer vacation?

Let them Procure Cards for the Public Library.

It will cost you nothing and will give them the greatest benefit and enjoyment. Nothing can be of such value to them as the habit of reading.

Abraham Lincoln had scarcely any schooling; but from childhood he was an eager reader of books. Benjamin Franklin, leaving school at ten years of age, became one of the greatest men this country has produced and one of the most learned men of his time, because in boyhood he learned to like a good book.

Do You Want your children to have wholesome food for their minds? Do you want them to associate with the brightest and best people of all countries and ages?

Send them to the Public Library.

Do You Want them to travel through the United States and foreign countries, to know their history, manners, customs, products, and peoples?

Send them to the Public Library.

Do You Want them to know how to make a dynamo or run an engine or sail a ship; how to raise bees or poultry; how to take care of dogs and horses; how to sew or knit or embroider; how to draw, paint, cook, keep house, or make dresses? In short, do you want them to become well informed, helpful, and happy?

Send them to the Public Library.

The Library Is Yours. You are paying for its maintenance. Why not use it? If you haven't time to read yourself, send your children. Any child that can read can obtain a card.

LIBRARY SECTION OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 7, the directors of the National Educational Association, in session at Buffalo, by unanimous vote established a library department, and a meeting was held for organization on Thursday, July 9, at 4 p.m. in the lecture-room of the Buffalo Library. At that meeting the officers chosen were Melvil Dewey, of Albany, president; Superintendent J. H. Van Sickle, of Denver, vice-president; Miss M. E. Ahern, of Chicago, secretary. These officers were instructed to consult with the A. L. A. at their next annual meeting with reference to future proceedings, and it was voted that the department cordially invite a delegated representation from the A. L. A. and local library associations generally throughout the country. There were about 30 people in attendance at the session.

American Library Association.

President: J. C. Dana, Public Library, Denver, Col.

Secretary: H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Acting Treasurer: E. H. Anderson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, Pa.

18th Conference, Cleveland, O., Sept. 1-4, 1896.

CONFERENCE NOTES.

THE final program of the conference will be issued about August 1, and will give full and final details as to rates, railroad arrangements, meetings, and post-conference trip. The preliminary papers, including reports of the treasurer and all standing committees, are now in press and will be distributed to members before August 1.

It is expected that there will be an unusually large attendance of trustees. More than 1000 letters have been sent to the trustees of different libraries urging their presence at Cleveland and their joining of the A. L. A.

Mr. J. H. Stout, state senator in Wisconsin, who has done so much for library interests in that state by the establishment of travelling libraries, is expected to be at Cleveland and supplement the report of Mr. John Thomson, of the Philadelphia Free Library, on travelling libraries.

Mr. Elmendorf has recently returned from Mackinaw where he has made favorable arrangements for the accommodation of the post-conference party. The Grand Hotel, which will probably be headquarters, has named a rate of \$2.50 per day for first-class accommodations, for which their regular charge is from \$4 to \$5. The hotel is one of the finest summer hotels in the country, located on high ground with a magnificent view of the lake, surrounded by evergreens, and kept in park style. The orchestra will be retained as long as the A. L. A. stay. The Casino will be at the disposal of the party for meetings and social gatherings.

RAILROAD ARRANGEMENTS.

A special circular will be mailed shortly to all eastern members of the A. L. A. containing additional information to that already published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The party from New York will go via the New York Central R. R., leaving New York at 7:30 p.m., Monday, August 31.

Those from Boston will take the 3 p.m. train on the Boston and Albany R. R. the same day. The trains unite at Albany and reach Buffalo for breakfast at 7.30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept 1; will reach Cleveland, over the Lake Shore R. R., at 1.20 p.m., unless there should be cars enough to make up a special train, in which case an hour or more of time may be gained.

The railroads have granted one and one-third fare for the round trip, on the certificate plan; *the certificate must be procured from the agent when the ticket to Cleveland is purchased*; without this certificate the return ticket cannot be bought for one-third rate.

Fare one way from Boston, \$15.

Fare one way from New York, \$13.

Fare one way from Albany, \$11.15.

Sleeper from Boston, \$3.50.

Sleeper from New York, \$3.

Sleeper from Albany, \$2.50.

Stop-over at Niagara Falls will be allowed on the return trip. Every one expecting to go is earnestly requested to send word *at once* to Mr. F. R. Fletcher, Library Bureau, Boston, or to the undersigned,

C: ALEX. NELSON, Recorder.

EUROPEAN TRIP, 1897.

Mr. Elmendorf has just received the following letter from Mr. MacAlister, Secretary of the L. A. U. K., as to the proposed post-conference trip to England in 1897:

3d July, 1896.

MY DEAR MR. ELMENDORF: I am glad to inform you that we have just had a council meeting (called for the express purpose of considering your letters) and I am directed to inform you that this association offers to yours a most hearty welcome for July, 1897.

A committee has been formed for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements and we are all determined to do our best to make the combined 1897 meeting a record one.

I note what you say about hospitalities, but I am sure you and your colleagues will be good enough to leave that entirely to us, and we believe that it will give us all the greatest possible pleasure to do our best individually and collectively to entertain our confreres. I do not know whether there is such a word as *consours* but of course we mean to include them in our welcome.

Pending the decision of the council I had approached the city authorities and have their assurance that they will not lack hospitality upon the occasion and I also have obtained promises from some provincial towns, which you will visit, of hearty recognition and hospitality. Indeed these offers are so tempting that I fancy some of us will pretend to be good Americans and go on tour with you.

We have fixed our annual meeting this year to be held in a quiet way in Buxton from Sept. 1 to Sept. 4, and I should be glad if you could send to me some definite information to make at that time.

Nothing remains now but for you to settle your dates and plans for next year and to send them over to me, so that we may fix our arrangements accordingly.

With kind regards, believe me,

Yours very truly,

J. Y. W. MACALISTER.

State Library Associations.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

President: J. C. Rowell, Librarian University of California, Berkeley.

Secretary: A. M. Jellison, Librarian Mechanics' Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: C. R. Dudley, City Library, Denver.

Secretary: John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

Treasurer: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. K. Stetson, Public Library, New Haven.

Secretary: Miss M. A. Richardson, Public Library, New London.

Treasurer: Mrs. F. W. Robinson, Otis Library, Norwich.

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Thomas Nelson, Public Library, East St. Louis, Ill.

Secretary: Miss E. L. Moore, Withers Public Library, Bloomington.

Treasurer: P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Rollin A. Kautz, Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago, Ill.

IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.

President: J. W. Rich, State University Library, Iowa City.

Secretary: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Secretary: Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: C. K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline.

Secretary: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

Treasurer: Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

Treasurer: Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. W. Bailey, Nashua.

Corresponding Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Librarian and Treasurer: Miss A. M. Colby, Public Library, Concord.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Cornelia A. See, Public Library, New Brunswick.

Secretary: Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. N. Larned, Buffalo Library, Buffalo.

Secretary: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: D. A. Campbell, State Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Mary Jones, State University, Lincoln.

Treasurer: Miss Carrie C. Dennis, Public Library, Lincoln.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland.

Secretary: Miss Alice Boardman, State Library, Columbus.

Treasurer: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Jos. G. Rosengarten, Free Library, Philadelphia.

Secretary: C. S. Kates, Free Library, Branch 5, West Phila., Phila.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. A. Resag, Institute Free Library, Wilmington, Del.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

Library Clubs.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

Secretary: Miss May L. Bennett, Armour Institute.

Treasurer: W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Secretary: Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Treasurer: Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: Dr. Cyrus Adler, Smithsonian Institution.

Secretary and Treasurer: F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

CLOSING EXERCISES FOR 1895-96.

THE simple closing exercises of the N. Y. State Library School for 1895-96 were held in the state library, Tuesday, June 23. Brief addresses were given by the director and vice-director and diplomas were conferred by the director.

Degree of B.L.S.: Myrtila Avery, Katonah, N. Y. (B.A. Wellesley College, 1891); Nancy May Pond, Woonsocket, R. I. (B.S. Wellesley College, 1893).

Diplomas: Ellen Dodge Biscoe, Albany, N. Y. (Wellesley College, 1885-88); Waller Irene Bullock, Baltimore, Md. (Wellesley College, 1892-94); Frances Jenkins Olcott, Nassau, N. Y. MARY S. CUTLER.

SUMMER SCHOOL.

The first summer session of the N. Y. State Library School opened on July 7 most auspiciously. The sessions are held in the library and will continue for five weeks. Most of

those taking the course are from public libraries, and are unable to attend the regular school during the year. Miss Myrtila Avery of the state library staff is the principal instructor, and a series of lectures has also been arranged. The course is a very full one and its completion requires steady application.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

THE graduation exercises of the Pratt Institute Library School took place at the Institute on the evening of June 19 with those of the other departments. 19 students received certificates, 18 having taken the full course and one the cataloging. The class consisted of the following:

Eleanor A. Angell, Montclair, N. J.
 Maria C. Babcock, Brooklyn.
 Laura M. Carleton, Salem, Mass.
 Bertha G. Carr, Ashby, Mass.
 Mildred A. Collar, Roxbury, Mass.
 Jeannette W. Dailey, Longstreet, Ga.
 Agnes M. Elliott, Mercer, Pa.
 Hannah G. Fernald, Brooklyn.
 Sarah L. Galloupe, Danvers, Mass.
 Gertrude P. Hill, Brooklyn.
 Katrine H. Jacobsen, New York.
 Gertrude E. Lachlan, Brooklyn.
 Mollie V. Leavitt, Sag Harbor, N. Y.
 Louise Mears, Brooklyn.
 Annie C. Moore, Limerick, Maine.
 M. Emily Pier, New York.
 Elizabeth D. Remmiger, Northumberland, Pa.
 Florence Russell, Great Barrington, Mass.
 Anna B. White, Brooklyn.

Misses White, Mears, and Lachlan have been engaged as members of the Pratt Institute Free Library staff, Miss Fernald to take charge of the children's department in the Buffalo Library, Miss Elliott to catalog the library of the Pittsburgh Masonic Library Association, Miss Pier as acting librarian of the South Orange (N. J.) Library, and Miss Russell in the same capacity in the library of Great Barrington, Mass.; Miss Leavitt to catalog the accessions of the Rogers Memorial Library at Southampton, L. I., Miss Jacobsen as summer substitute at the Pratt Institute Free Library, and Miss Moore to deliver a series of talks on the joint work of libraries and schools before the Maine State Teachers' Association. Of the remainder, Miss Collar and Miss Carleton are at Amherst, preparing for the new second-year course of the Pratt Institute Library School, and Miss Dailey is studying preparatory to taking the remainder of the first-year course next year.

SECOND-YEAR COURSE.

A SECOND-YEAR course has been planned for the Pratt Institute Library School which will deal with library science and bibliography, and will be not wholly an extension of the first-year work, but rather a development of another phase, the historical and bibliographical. Taken in connection with the first-year work or with practical experience in the ordinary library, it should fit the graduate to undertake any branch of library work.

Any one is eligible for the course who may have the necessary personal qualifications, and who can pass the examinations. These will require some knowledge of general literature, history, current events, and library economy, and also a working knowledge of French, German, and Latin. The examinations will take place on Saturday, September 19, at Pratt Institute, from 9 a.m. to 12 m., and from 2 to 5 p.m. The term will open September 28, at 9 a.m.

Graduates of the Library School of Pratt Institute for the years of 1894, 1895, and 1896, whose work was entirely satisfactory to their instructors, will be excused from the examinations in library economy.

Among the subjects to be studied in this course are: Advanced cataloging and bibliography; Library administration and the history of libraries; Ancient and modern continental literatures; History of books and printing; History of binders and binding; History of engraving and other early reproductive processes; Italian; Stenography.

Through the kindness of Dr. John S. Billings, Director of the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations, and of Mr. Wilberforce Eames, the Lenox librarian, the subjects of "Advanced cataloging and bibliography" will be pursued, under a competent instructor, by means of the collections of the Lenox Library. The lectures on "Books and printing" will be given by Mr. Theodore L. De Vinne and Mr. Frank E. Hopkins, of the De Vinne Press; those on "Binders and binding" by Miss Nordhoff, a pupil of Cobden-Sanderson, and a practical binder; and the course on "Engraving and early reproductive processes" by Mr. J. Frederick Hopkins, director of the Department of Museums of Pratt Institute. Single lectures by other authorities on bibliographical subjects are projected.

The final examination papers in cataloging and bibliography will be set by committees composed of specialists and of members of the Grolier Club, who have kindly consented to serve. The certificate of the Institute will be conferred upon all who pass the final examinations to the satisfaction of these committees. Tuition fee for the course of nine months, divided into three terms, \$45. As the class will be limited in number, application should be made at once by all desiring to enter. Application blanks will be forwarded on request.

The establishment of this course, it will be understood, is conditioned upon the registering of a reasonable number of applications. Address all the correspondence to the Director, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

ARMOUR INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS.

FOLLOWING is a list of graduates from the two years course, with subjects of theses and bibliographies:

Mary J. Calkins, Chicago.

Thesis—Reference lists.
Bibliog.—Cuba.

Virginia R. Dodge (Wellesley), Oak Park, Ill.

Thesis—Libraries of the marine service.
Bibliog.—Manners and customs in France.

Maude R. Henderson (Purdue), Lafayette, Ind.

Thesis—Finding lists.
Bibliog.—Reading list on the orchestra.

Margaret Mann, Chicago.

Thesis—Inter-library loans.
Bibliog.—Reading list on Lakes Erie, Huron, and Michigan.

Eleanor Roper, Chicago.

Thesis—Advertising a library.
Bibliog.—Reading list on the drama.

Maude W. Straight (Wellesley), Oak Park, Ill.

Thesis—How a college library differs from a public library.
Bibliog.—Relation of the mind to the body.

Irene Warren, Chicago.

Thesis—Public school libraries in Chicago.
Bibliog.—Reading list on eight operas.

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director*.

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS.

THE commencement exercises of the Drexel Institute took place on Friday, June 12, in the auditorium of the Institute. The program included addresses by the Rev. Dr. McCook and President MacAlister. The following students of the library class received certificates for completing the full course: Mary Smedley Allen, Media, Pa.; Mary Zita Cruice, Anna Roney Dougherty, Anna Cantrell Laws, Ada F. Liveright, Philadelphia; Alice S. Griswold, Washington, D. C.; Caroline Van Jerson Rowland, Cheltenham, Pa.

Reviews.

STATE OF NEW YORK, *Dept. of Public Instruction*. Catalogue of the Teachers' Library of the State of New York; prepared under the supervision of Charles R. Skinner, state superintendent of public instruction. Albany, Weed-Parsons Printing Co., 1896. 94 p. O.

This is truly an astonishing catalog to emanate from the state of New York, from which, generally, bibliographical exactness and scientific cataloging are to be expected. The plan on which the work has been done is rather difficult to determine. It seems to consist chiefly in entering books under whatever word of the title the compiler happened to think of first. For instance, under Air we have:

"Air, Frail children of the. S. H. Scudder,
"Air, Little brothers of the. O. T. Miller,
"Air, Queen of the. J. Ruskin,
"Air, The Ocean of. A. Giberne,"

while only the last two books relate at all to the subject thus brought out. No author entries are given, the catalog being an alphabetic arrangement of mongrel and deformed titles, like those cited. The titles are numbered consecutively from one to 1308, and the entries consist only of title, briefest form of author's name, and name of publisher. The price of each book to teachers and the amount of postage are given in separate columns at the right-hand side of the page, and there are brief annotations to

every book listed. Some of these annotations are curiosities in their way, as, for example, the lucid note to "Knowledge historically considered, Theories of," which runs thus: "Stated in the common language of mankind, and illustrated by examples within the comprehension of all." Another interesting specimen is that appended to "Schoolmaster, The Hoosier. E. Eggleston," which states only that "'Humor laughing to keep from bursting into tears' is found in this story of school life." The lack of cross-references and the astonishing title arrangement make it practically impossible to find either the books of a given author or on a given subject. Under Boys we find: "Boys' heroes," "Boys, Historic," "Boys, Notes for," and "Boys, Our business," while Mrs. Bolton's book, "Poor boys who became famous," lingers a forlorn outcast under "Poor." "Confucian analects" is entered only under "Analects, Confucian"; under "Stars" are several twisted titles of astronomical books, while "In starry realms" appears only between "Insect world" and "Instruction"; and "House plants as sanitary agents" follows "Horse fair, The," and shows no reference to or connection with the several books grouped under "Plants." The delightful simplicity of this method is enhanced by a three-page "Supplementary list," presumably containing later accessions. Following the catalog proper is a three-page list of the contents of seven series, a list of the publishers previously cited, and one page giving "Changes in prices of books" recorded in the catalog. The only preface is the familiar quotation on "The value of books," from Richard de Bury.

The regulations of the State Teachers' Library are given on the second page of cover; they relate chiefly to the loaning of books to teachers making formal application for them. Books issued may be kept for a month, if desired, return postage being paid by the borrower, and any book desired may be purchased from the library at the price listed. Valuable as this system of book-borrowing is to the teachers of the state, it is not likely that the usefulness or reputation of the library will be enhanced by the present catalog.

WILLIAMSON, JOS. A bibliography of the state of Maine, from the earliest period to 1891. Portland, Me., The Thurston Print, 1896. 2 v., 8+738; 2+699 p. O. \$7.

This important bibliography has been compiled under the auspices of the Maine Historical Society, and is published by that society, of which its author is an honored member. It is the result of years of patient and devoted labor on the part of Judge Williamson, and in its compilation all available sources of information have been sought out, and each work listed has, whenever practicable, been personally collated and examined. The work embraces about 10,000 entries and the names of over 2500 authors, with abundant cross-references and descriptive notes. "With certain exceptions, its purpose," says Judge Williamson, "is to give the full title of every book,

pamphlet, and reputable magazine article at any time printed in or having reference to Maine, and also of all of which the authors were, at the time of writing or publishing, residents within the state." The exceptions are chiefly public, municipal, and legal reports, pamphlets not relating to historical, literary, charitable, or religious organizations, and works of native authors "printed or published after they have ceased to be residents, unless these have some special relation to Maine." The latter exception, naturally, cuts out a large number of works by writers who might be expected to appear in a list of Maine authors.

The work is arranged in one author-and subject alphabet, but the titles of books under both authors and subjects are grouped chronologically, so that, in the larger divisions, as Bowdoin College, if the date of the desired publication is not known, it is necessary to search through a long list of varying titles. Names of authors are generally given with fair fulness, and a line of biographical data is appended, giving dates of birth and death, profession, and present residence of living writers. Title-entries are generally not given, though a few exceptions may be found, and in some cases books are entered only under author and not under subject. Bibliographically, other criticisms of arrangement and method might be made, but the author himself frankly acknowledges that "the book may lack some of the characteristics of a technical bibliography," and its great value as a record of Maine writers and literature and as a contribution to state bibliography makes such criticism an ungrateful task.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

DEWEY, Stoddard. The triumph of Sunday opening. (In *Westminster Review*, May, 1896, p. 477-484.)

Mr. Dewey reviews the history of the movement for the opening of the British Museum and collections of a similar character on Sunday. The agitation of the reform dates from 1829. During the last 20 years the movement was pushed by the National Sunday League and the Sunday Society. Every one interested in the Sunday opening of libraries will find the paper helpful. Immediately following Mr. Dewey's paper is a symposium on "The present situation of Sunday opening," the contributors to which are the Lord Bishop of Winchester, the Rev. Canon Barnett, Lord Hobhouse, George Jacob Holyoake, and Mark H. Judge. All these are favorable to the movement. The symposium is continued in the June number.

MONTANA STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION, Proceedings at Anaconda, Dec. 26-28, 1895, includes "Relation between public libraries and public schools," by John F. Davies, and

"Some features of the relations between public libraries and public schools," by Frank C. Patten. The latter paper has also appeared in the *Montana Educator*.

SHINN, Milicent W. Concerning school libraries. (In *Overland Monthly*, June, 1896, 27: 644-656.)

Though this article is written for teachers it is sure to prove helpful to librarians, and its helpfulness is not confined to California, for whose teachers it is written. Lists of books are given for school libraries; one list that can be purchased for \$150 and another for \$400, the limits of funds allowed for books in 10 years in school libraries in California. The lists are chosen along the lines of the probable development of a child's interest rather than as material for connected "courses of reading." Miss Shinn calls attention to the decided deterioration in the character of the reading of most children within the past generation—books "written down" to them, owing largely to "the evil doctrine which has gained so firm a hold on many parents and teachers, that effort is dangerous to children's brains." "I believe that in spite of floods of pedagogic talk, brains in this world have suffered very little from hard work." "The modern tenderness for children is always in danger of falling into the mistake of babying them too much." "I am not afraid of intellectual precocity in a child, but emotional precocity is a more real danger."

LOCAL.

Akron, O. At a special election held July 1, to decide as to the issue of bonds for \$80,000 for the erection of a library building, the proposition was defeated by a majority of 600.

Bangor (Me.) P. L. (13th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '95.) Added 1562; total 38,615. Issued, home use 47,801 (fict. 75 %); lib. use 32,593. New registration 1021. Receipts \$6227.87; expenses \$5809.03.

Bay City (Mich.) P. L. (19th rpt.) Added 770; total 15,957; circulation 46,030; open 307 days. Receipts \$2935.16; expenses \$2844.69. Of the \$2500 appropriated by the council for the library, only \$1324.19 were received from the city treasurer; as a result many books listed for purchase could not be bought and the circulation has suffered for lack of them.

"People continue to injure books by turning down the corners of leaves and by marking with pencil and sometimes with ink. If this is not stopped a rigid system of fines for a mark and for corners turned will have to be instituted.

"50 volumes of newspapers and magazines have been bound at an average cost of 72 cents, and 619 books have been rebound at an average cost of 30 cents a volume. The quality of the work is much improved and the expense slightly reduced. 2118 volumes have been repaired in the library."

Boston P. L. The examination questions which are put to all applicants for subordinate

positions in the library are given in the last report. These questions have been made the subject of much ridicule and abuse from many newspapers in Boston and elsewhere.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY; by Fletcher, W. I. (In *The Critic*, Je. 27.) 2½ col.

A review, elicited by Mr. Putnam's recent report, of the administration of the Boston P. L. in the past and its prospect for the future. Mr. Fletcher criticises the arrangement and working facilities of the new building, which in spite of an elaborate mechanical system of book delivery requires a largely increased force of attendants and the sum of \$30,000 additional for running expenses. "It may well be regarded as a serious calamity that so expensive a building as this in Copley Square should have to be accepted as only one more example of 'how not to do it.' It is perfectly clear that a building entirely suitable for the functions of the central library (the 23 branches and stations doing a large share of the whole work of the institution) could have been erected for \$1,000,000, with an equal book capacity, much larger provision for readers and a general adaptation to its practical uses, and with as much of architectural style and decoration as could well be asked."

Boston Y. M. C. U. L. Added 666; total 13,489. Issued, home use 20,570. Free access to the shelves is allowed, and no record of the library use of books, periodicals, magazines, etc., is kept. Four of the popular magazines are issued for home use, and their total circulation for the year amounted to 1057.

Braddock, Pa. Carnegie L. Judge E. H. Stowe has made an order refusing to declare the Carnegie Library at Braddock taxable property, in the suit brought by Allegheny county against Andrew Carnegie. The court thinks these libraries are exempt from taxation. The case will be taken to the Supreme Court.

Bristol (Ct.) P. L. The trustees of the public library have bought for \$10,000 a building on the corner of Main and High streets and will remodel it and adapt it to library purposes.

Brockton (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 1, '95.) Added 1775; total 22,443; circulation 102,835; reference 7567; loaned to schools 1343; visitors to reading and reference room 10,990.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) Institute L. The trustees have voted to establish a branch free library in the Bedford Park building, No. 185 Brooklyn ave., after the scientific department is moved to the new museum.

Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L. The June issue of the *Pratt Institute Monthly* is a "Library number," and is almost wholly given up to description of the new library building, with the addresses, etc., of the dedicatory exercises. Mrs. Deland's paper on reading is given in full, and there is a complete list of the graduates of the library classes and their present positions.

Brunswick, Me. Bowdoin College L. (Rpt.—year ending June 1, '96.) Added 3000; total 58,169. Issued 7080, "a material advance over last year," but the circulation figures do not give a fair view of the usefulness of the library.

The urgent need of more room has been met, in part, by the removal of less used books; but this makeshift injures the value of the collection as a whole and affords but temporary relief. "A new library structure is essential not only to the growth but even to the maintenance of the present efficiency of the library." What Mr. Little says as to the need of a new building is repeated and emphasized in the report of the special committee on the library, which goes into the subject with considerable fulness, and advocates, if a new building is impracticable, at least the erection of a book-room, to which later the main building desired could be added.

Buffalo (N. Y.) L. A children's reading-room has recently been opened, pleasantly and conveniently situated on the second floor of the building; it is supplied with a careful selection of books and periodicals for children of all ages below 14 years, including pictures and picture-books for the very youngest, and is suitably furnished with chairs and tables adapted in height to small readers. The room is under the care of a lady who is believed to be especially fitted, both by character and training, to attract children to the place, interest them in good reading, and give them judicious guidance in it. "Like the other reading-rooms of the library, this children's room will be freely open to all who come, and is expected to be the means of drawing within the range of the influence of good books very many of the young of our city who might otherwise never know their refining charm. The idea of making this kind of special provision for children, in connection with public libraries, is one of quite recent development; but it is strongly recommended by the few experiments in which it has been tried, and it is now generally accepted and adopted in the plans of the newer library buildings—as at Boston, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Chicago, and elsewhere." The suggestion that the experiment be tried in the Buffalo Library was made by President Smith in his address at the annual meeting of the library in February last.

Butte (Mont.) F. P. L. (2d rpt.—year ending April 1, '96.) Added 2258; total 19,423. Issued, home use 64,842 (fict. 74.57 %); lib. use 42,488. Total registration 3159. Receipts, expense fund \$22,636.11; expenses \$17,288.69; receipts, book fund \$4405.95, expenses \$3534.52.

"During the year several copies of current issues of *Century*, *Harper's*, *St. Nicholas*, and *Scribner's* magazines have been purchased for the home use of patrons. A small beginning has also been made in the binding of the stores of magazines and pamphlets belonging to the library. The first number of a bulletin

containing the latest additions to the library and the beginning of a supplement to the printed catalog has been issued.

"During the two years since the library was opened difficulties have constantly arisen but progress has been steadily made. The printed catalog was the event of the first year. The second year opened with promises of growth and usefulness that have been but partially realized. Just as plans were being started for the operation of the full activities of the institution, some \$11,000 of the money of the library was rendered unavailable by the defalcation of the city treasurer, and has not yet been restored. This called a halt, and for about eight months no work was done. A check just at that time was a serious hindrance to the library's work, and it is gratifying that even under the circumstances a steady gain in all departments was recorded." In the fall extra copies of the leading magazines were purchased and issued for home use, an innovation that has proved popular. The "two-book" system was adopted in March of this year.

Chatham, Mass. Eldredge L. The library building given to the town by Hon. Marcellus Eldredge, of Portsmouth, N. H., was dedicated on July 4. The building, which has cost \$30,000, is colonial in style, 32½ x 67 feet, and 20 feet from ground to cornice. It is of red brick with stone trimmings, with granite foundations, copper cornice-work and green slate and terra-cotta roof. The entrance-hall, 12 x 20, is finished in quartered oak and contains a fine stained-glass window. To the right of the entrance, separated by sliding doors, is the reading-room, 18 x 30. At the left on entering is the delivery-room, 12 x 14, and the reference-room, 11 x 15. The reference-room and delivery-room are divided by an arch screen wall, flanked on either side by columns. Beyond the delivery-desk is the stack-room, arranged in the alcove and two stories in height. A gallery in the rear connects both sides. The library contains shelving for 12,000 books. The interior is in pure Italian style. The woodwork is all in quartered oak finished in fine colors. The entire building is wainscoted nine feet high, the side walls are tinted water-green, and the ceilings between the beams are a rich ivory white.

Chicago, Ill. John Crerar L. The action of the trustees in making this a purely scientific reference library has been questioned and attacked as a violation of the purpose and wish of the founder as expressed in his will. Thomas D. Lowther, one of the objectors, suggests to the board that it has failed to put the right interpretation upon the will. He knew Mr. Crerar, and believes that it was the intention of the founder to create a library of literature—not one devoted to sciences. This position, he asserts, is proved by the clause that specifies that "dirty French novels and all sceptical trash and works of questionable moral tone shall never be found in this library." This specification would have been unnecessary, in his opinion, had Mr. Crerar intended to estab-

lish a scientific library. Mr. Lowther made an offer of 1000 works from his own collection. The list embraced a wide range of subjects, but the directors decided they were not in keeping with the adopted plan. From his knowledge of the life and purposes of Mr. Crerar he advises that the spirit of the bequest would be better executed were the plans changed to make the scope of more general interest.

Cleveland, O. Western Reserve Univ., Hatch L. The library building given to Adelbert College of the University by H. R. Hatch was dedicated on June 15. A short presentation address was made by Mr. Hatch, who handed the keys of the building to President Thwing. The latter responded in a brief speech, expressing the thanks of the university faculty and students. An address, "The intellectual development of Cleveland," by Prof. Curtiss, was read by Henry Jeschke, and after two selections by the glee club, prayer and benediction by Dr. Sprecher brought the ceremonies to an end.

The building, the corner-stone of which was laid on June 18, 1895, is cruciform in shape, and when complete is to be 95 x 101 feet, with a tower 15 x 15 feet forming the main entrance. Only the main building, 33 x 101 feet, and tower are now complete, it being the intention to build the wings, 28 x 32 feet each, in the near future. The building is two stories high with a basement. The basement, 8 feet in the clear, contains a large workshop with suitable shelving, tables, etc., a men's toilet and coat room, and a lift extending from basement to the second-story reference-room. The first story, 13 feet in the clear, with double entrances through the tower, contains an entrance-hall, a reading-room 15 x 30 feet, also a women's toilet and cloak room, the library-hall, 26 x 30 feet, and a stack-room 30 x 40 feet. The stack-room is fitted with wrought-steel stacks, and is capable of holding from 30,000 to 50,000 volumes. The stack-room is fire-proof, being constructed with brick walls and steel beams, with terra-cotta coverings. The library-hall, with opening to roof, forming a rotunda in effect, is fitted with the librarian's alcove, with desk, suitable closets, shelving, and cardcases. A spacious stairway leads to the second story, which is one large room, 30 x 80 feet, forming a reference and work room, with open timber roof, the framing of which is 20 feet in height. At the south end, three bookcases on each side form alcoves, and at the north end, steel racks on each side and end give provision for books. Suitable tables, chairs, and cabinets provide the students with conveniences for work.

The building is English gothic in design, built of buff Ohio sandstone, laid in broken ashlar. The stone walls are backed with brick. The interior finish is of Georgia pine, natural finish, including the floors. The tower entrance has a marble mosaic floor. The roof of the main building is of black Maine slate, and the projections of copper. The building is heated by steam and lighted by gas.

Coldwater (Mich.) F. P. L. The secretary of the library board says: "Our city contains about 5000 inhabitants. The surrounding country is entirely devoted to agriculture, from which it draws its support almost entirely, and I feel certain that but few cities of the size of this one and located as this is can show better results. The library is well patronized and the city owns its own building, presented by a citizen, Mr. E. R. Clarke. The library is supported by general taxation, giving an income of \$2000 each year.

Columbus (O.) Public School L. (19th rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, '95.) Added 4027; total 27,533. Issued, home use 88,055 (fict. 32.60%; juv. 35.40%); ref. use 6147. New registration 1863; total cards in use 7860.

The library furnishes collections of reference and useful miscellaneous books for daily use in the various public-school buildings, of the use of which no record is kept.

The important work of the year was the preparation of the first division of the catalog, comprising biography and fiction.

Detroit (Mich.) P. L. In the addition to the library just completed, a large room on the ground floor is devoted to the special use of children. It is light and airy, and well suited for a reading-room. 11 tables, surrounded by comfortable chairs, furnish a seating capacity for about 50 boys and girls. Shelves, containing upwards of 3000 books, line two sides of the room. Of these, 1100 comprise selections from travel, history, biography, science, and general literature; the remainder are fiction. In addition bound volumes of *St. Nicholas*, *Wide Awake*, *Harper's Young People* and *Youths' Companion* are within reach. The current periodicals devoted to youth are to be transferred to this department from the general reading-room. Those frequenting the room are to be allowed to go to the shelves, with slight restrictions, and choose their own books, to read in the room or to have charged on their cards and take home for general or particular information. The room is entered directly from the street through the rear of the building, and all business with children's books is to be transacted in the children's room—delivery, charging, and returning. Books are to be charged on the cards with ink of different color from that in general use in the library.

East Jaffray, N. H. Clay Memorial L. The memorial library building, given by the late Mrs. Susan Clay to Jaffray, was dedicated on the afternoon of July 4. The presentation was made by Peter Upton, executor of Mrs. Clay's estate, and addresses were delivered by Rev. L. J. Dean, of Hudson, N. Y., and Prof. C. F. Richardson, of Dartmouth College.

Evanston, Ill. Northwestern Univ., Orrington Lunt L. (Rpt.—in president's annual rpt., 1895-96, p. 39-49.) Added 1224; total 31,285. Issued, home use 1224; issued on call-slips for lib. use 4306. This is but a partial statement, as no record is kept of much of the use of books. Free access to the shelves was given to 35

advanced students, the faculty has constant alcove use, and books and periodicals in the reading-room are free to all. The average reading-room attendance is 193 daily, an increase of 46% over that of three years ago.

Freeport (Ill.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 1.) Added 1387; total 10,744; circulation 45,194. Balance from last year's appropriation \$1788.17.

Gloverville (N. Y.) F. L. (16th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31.) Added 1205; total 13,795; circulation 62,311; reference 5391; visitors to reading-room 26,342; loaned to teachers for use in schools 656; supplementary 527. 66,967 v. examined; 4526 covered, labelled, and titled, and 10,243 repaired.

Green Bay (Wis.) P. L. At a regular meeting of the board of directors, held May 27, the name of the library was changed to Kellogg Public Library, in honor of the late Rufus B. Kellogg, who during his lifetime gave the library an endowment of \$15,000.

The eighth annual report of the library (year ending June 30) gives the following statistics: Added 546; total 4993. Issued, home use, 40,558; school use 104; lib. use 525. Visitors to reading-room 6541.

Hartford, Ct. Trinity College L. Added 590; total 36,762; circulation 1267.

Indianapolis (Ind.) P. L. (Rpt.—July, '95–June, '96.) Added 3635; total 62,952. Issued, home use, 230,979 (fict. 52%); no. card-holders 24,517.

Iowa State L., Des Moines. Mrs. Cope, the state librarian, has issued a circular setting forth the details of the new law providing for the establishment of travelling libraries, which went into effect July 1. To obtain the books applicants must become an "associate library" with the state library, "either as a duly organized library, or other organized body, or by petition of 25 resident taxpayers, where no such library exists. In both instances it is required that ample provision be made for the use, care, and return of the books by a duly appointed librarian, committee, or other management, who shall care for the books, make reports, annual and special, to the state librarian, return the books, and pay charges of transportation, etc." No date has yet been fixed for the issue of the books.

Kingston (Mass.) P. L. At a town-meeting held June 2 the report of the library building committee recommending that \$13,000 be appropriated for the building, \$3000 for the immediate purchase of books, statuary, or pictures, and \$1000 for incidentals, and that \$10,000 be held as a reserve fund, and that the library be called the Frederic C. Adams Public Library, was accepted, the \$17,000 appropriated, and the building committee authorized to expend it.

Manchester (N. H.) City L. (42d rpt.) Added 1098; total 39,449; issued, home use, 59,495; lib. use 10,934. Appropriation for 1895 \$4500. Paid for books \$1000; incidental expenses

\$3740.65. "The first teacher's card was issued Jan. 15, and 40 teachers of our grammar schools have made use of these cards to draw six books at a time for the use of their pupils. The book-taken have all been of a high character. The teachers all speak in the highest praise of this privilege granted by the library; of the aid it gives them in their work; and many have reported a manifest improvement in the quality of reading chosen by the children since this plan was carried into effect. We may report that 40 teachers have taken out in one year 1000 books which their pupils have read or consulted; but how many children have learned that there are scores of books on the subject they are studying besides the text-book in hand, and will in future turn to the public library for information of all kinds; how many have been aroused to an interest in some subject uncared for before; how many have been stimulated to read a higher class of literature—all this figures cannot tell. But if it be the aim of education to make honest, enlightened, and useful citizens, we may feel that the library has rendered a great service to the city by this particular line of work undertaken in the past year." The age limit was lowered from 16 to 12 years, and the library hours have been increased from eight to 10 hours, it now being open from 10 a.m. till 8 p.m.

Medford (Mass.) P. L. The board of aldermen have appropriated \$19,000 for repairing, remodelling, and enlarging the public library.

New Britain (Ct.) Institute L. (42d rpt.—year ending April 1, '96.) Added 2657; total 11,350. Issued, home use, 26,713 (fict. "6% less than in 1894.") Receipts \$9629.46; expenses \$9374.26.

A fee of \$1 yearly is charged for the home use of books; but use at the library is absolutely free to all. The free list has within the past few years been extended to embrace teachers and pupils in certain schools and departments. Whenever city aid shall be secured for a free public library, the Institute directors will welcome and support the arrangement.

The directors have purchased the Judd property for \$10,000 as a site for the library building. The purchase was made out of the Norton and Tompkins funds of \$5000 each, which have been heretofore invested in interest-bearing funds.

New Hampton, N. H. Gordon Nash L. The library was dedicated June 25, with appropriate ceremonies. The building, which cost over \$14,000, was provided for by bequest in the will of the late Judge Stephen Gordon Nash, whose private library of more than 6000 v., with valuable paintings, engravings, and other works of art, were also included in the bequest. The dedicatory poem was written by the widow of the donor; the principal address was by Rev. Dr. A. B. Meservey.

New Orleans (La.) P. L. A proposition presented to the council to remove the Fisk Library to Tulane University, in whose old quar-

ters it was for a number of years, has drawn a letter from President Johnston, in which he says that the university does not want the Fisk Library. He also thinks that the combined Fisk and city libraries, as a nucleus of a public library, will make a very small one, and estimates that the cost of fitting it up would be nearly half the value of the books, and the annual maintenance from one-fifth to one-third their value. He suggests that the city, if it enters into the project of a public library, should do so boldly, and expend some \$50,000 annually for a couple of years, so as to purchase enough new books to make the library an up-to-date one. He also calls attention to the fact that 50,000-odd volumes stacked up in the state library, which must be removed soon, would make a very valuable addition to the "nucleus."

New York F. C. L. The Bloomingdale branch, at Amsterdam avenue and 100th street, has been opened to the public. This is the seventh branch of the library, but though the youngest, it is likely to outstrip some of the other branches in growth, as it is in the midst of a densely populated district that has hitherto had inadequate library facilities.

New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations. The New York Board of Fire Underwriters, members of which recently appeared before the aldermanic committee on county affairs to oppose the use of the 42d street reservoir site for library purposes, filed on June 27 additional evidence and arguments with the clerk of the board in opposition to the removal. They state that the establishment of the library on the site involves a gift of a plot of ground 460x460 feet, worth more than \$6,000,000, and the cutting off of a reservoir supply of 20,000,000 gallons of water which is absolutely necessary at present for fire and domestic purposes. They also quote the following resolution, recently passed by the Board of Underwriters: "*Resolved*, That this board again enters its earnest protest against the removal of the reservoir, and urges upon all authorities responsible in the premises that it be retained and used to its utmost capacity." The underwriters wish the aldermen to withhold their consent until new mains are laid and it is demonstrated that the reservoir is no longer needed.

On June 11 it was announced that the American collection of Dr. T. Addis Emmet had been presented to the library. The collection, which is the fruit of some 40 years' work, deals principally with the revolutionary period, and Dr. Emmet estimates that it has cost him not less than \$300,000. J. S. Kennedy, one of the library trustees, arranged with Mr. Emmet for the gift to the library, having paid the collector an amount not made public, but believed to be about \$150,000. Dr. Emmet's collection is made on an unusual plan. He has taken, when possible, some standard history of the period undertaken. Every person mentioned in the book is represented by one or more autograph letters, by letters from prominent

men relative to his affairs, and by a portrait. When prints or engravings have not been obtainable, the collector has searched through the man's family until he has found a painting or likeness of some sort, to be copied. Events are commented upon by autograph letters from prominent men, and illustrated by the original documents. Among other papers of interest and value are a draft of the Constitution in Thomas Jefferson's handwriting and signed by him, valued by the collector at \$10,000; the official notification of Congress from seven of the 13 original States, accepting the Constitution of 1787, and John Hancock's resolutions over his signature, dated July 5, 1779, providing that copies of the Declaration of Independence be forwarded at once to each of the several States and to the army. All this material has been carefully classified, the original matter, letters, documents, and portraits have all been set into large folio sheets, and these have been bound into volumes some three inches in thickness. The entire gift consists of about 143 volumes of this sort, a number of rare historical books, 200 or more framed and unframed prints and drawings, an almost complete collection of early United States coinage and currency, loose autograph letters from American celebrities, and a big wooden trunk, once the property of Gen. Gates, filled with his papers. The collection has been turned over to the library without condition, except that it shall be called the Emmet Library. Only the assurance that the collection would be kept intact and safe induced the collector to part with it.

North Adams (Mass.) P. L. (12th rpt. — March 1–Dec. 31, 1895.) Added 477; total 14,270; circulation 58,170 (fict. 51.7 %); expenditures \$3565.49.

Ohio State L. The State Library Commission has adopted new rules for the government of the library, the principal object of the change being the extension of the privileges of the library to all citizens of the state under certain conditions. Books will be sent to any point in the state provided the borrower is able to furnish a surety for the return and proper care of the volumes. The person receiving books in this way must pay the expressage. The new rule applies only to persons over 21 years of age. Another rule will enable persons at a distance to secure books through the local library, which will be supplied with books from the state library. The plan adopted by the board is similar to that in operation in New Hampshire. (See L. J., May, p. 245.)

Olneyville (R. I.) F. P. L. The trustees have decided that the library must be closed except on Saturdays, on account of the refusal of the taxpayers of Johnston in financial town-meeting to appropriate any money for its maintenance during the coming year. Last year \$800 was voted for this purpose. The deprivation of the benefits of the library falls heaviest upon the very class whose homes offer little attraction in its place.

Omaha (Neb.) P. L. Three assistants have been discharged at a saving of \$85 per month, and the library is to be closed evenings except Saturdays at 6 p.m. from May 15.

A search among the archives of the city clerk's office has unearthed the manuscript copies of the first seven annual reports of the Public Library board for the years from 1877 to 1884. These reports have never been printed. The librarian has been instructed to have them copied at his convenience, so that the library may be in possession of a complete file of all its reports since its organization as a public institution.

The explanation of the action of the city council in throwing out the bill for the librarian's incidentals for April is interesting. One of the items of the bill read: "Subscription to *Education*—\$4." One of the aldermen, who had never heard of such a publication, immediately jumped to the conclusion that the board was becoming recklessly extravagant, and had gone so far as to make a donation of \$4 to the board of education. So, instead of making inquiry, the whole bill was hung up. It is needless to say that when the item was explained objections were withdrawn and the bill allowed.

Philadelphia, Apprentices' L. (76th rpt.—year ending March 31, '96.) Added by purchase 1220; total not given. Issued, home use 71,212 (West Phila. branch 1437), as against 80,892 in the previous year; visitors to reading-room 50,913. New registration 773, compared with 1069 the year before. Receipts \$12,821.13; expenses \$12,747.81.

The decrease in the use of the library is said to be "almost entirely owing to the establishment of several free libraries in residence districts near the homes of our readers, thereby attracting them at the expense of our circulation."

"The managers would once more reaffirm their belief in the increasing necessity for a careful scrutiny of the reading-matter, especially fiction, that is placed on our shelves. Many popular books of the day—some, alas, unfortunately written by authors capable of better things—are not suitable to place before young readers, and we believe it better to lose in the quantity of work done rather than by catering to depraved tastes lower the standard of quality which the Apprentices' Library has so long endeavored to uphold."

The association has purchased the property of the Spring Garden Unitarian Church, at the corner of Broad and Brandywine sts., where it is probable the library will be removed. The price paid is understood to be \$51,000.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Civic Club Circulating Picture L. The first branch of the circulating picture library was opened successfully at the College Settlement about a month ago. Ten women were present and 16 pictures were taken out. Many children were at the meeting asking to be allowed to take pictures home to their mothers. At the next meeting 30 pictures were taken out. At the first meeting at

St. Peter's House only seven women took pictures; at the second meeting 10 were taken out. "The first list of those that have been taken out each time at the College Settlement evinces a true love among that people for the beautiful and the best in art. They were 'The marriage contract,' child's head and girl's head by Greuze; Van Dyck's 'Children of Charles I.,' 'Head of baby Prince James,' Murillo's 'Little St. John Baptist,' 'St. Anthony' (given by the children of the Wharton School), Correggio's 'Holy night,' and Sir Joshua Reynolds's 'Simplicity.' All the pictures chosen are good. It is usually some one point in the picture that attracts the women's notice. Among the pictures at the College Settlement is a photograph of one of the Muses by Spagna. It is a dreadful-looking thing. The muse is respectably but lightly clothed, and unfortunately has no feet, as she was painted over a doorway and the arch of the door has interfered with her skirts and legs. But in the background there is a tree, a very slim, slight spindle of a tree, with just about six leaves growing out of the very top of the trunk or the stem. A most impossible, conventional tree, still a tree for all that. And this picture was chosen simply for that tree in the corner of it." Another branch of the circulating picture library has been established at the Women's Lunch Club, 1108 Arch street. 10 pictures are sent there each month.

Philadelphia (Pa.) L. Co. Added 4181; total 183,693; circulation, Locust st. 40,793; Ridgewood branch 970; visitors, Locust st. 65,828; Ridgewood branch 9511. Receipts \$50,992.73; expenditures \$42,090.88.

In his report Mr. Fisher, the secretary, calls attention especially to the addition among others of a valuable collection of musical literature, the gift of the late Professor Emerick. This collection came into the hands of Professor Emerick through a man who had made it a life study, and who at his death turned the collection made thus far over to the professor. It contains full representation of the great masters of music, and many rare volumes.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L. The two-book system has been adopted.

Plainfield (N. J.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending May 31, '96.) Added 766; total 13,977. Issued, home use 31,028; no record kept of ref. use; 343 non-fiction cards issued.

The librarian reports a close co operation between the schools, public, parochial, and private, and the library; 1796 books were loaned to teachers for school use. In May over 250 of the best children's books were added to the library, of which an exhibit was given before they were placed on the shelves. The greatest needs of the library are an addition providing for a separate reading-room, a quiet study-room, and a separate children's room, as well as largely increased shelf-room, delivery-stations in those parts of the town where the library is comparatively unknown, a special library for the Irving (public) school,

the opening of the library during the noon hours, and a morning as well as afternoon circulation; all these are needed to extend the good work of the library.

Randolph, Mass. Turner F. L. Added 353; total 13,000; circulation 18,378; reference use 3714; open 277 days.

"Our specialty in library work is *minute* cataloging, believing that a small library exhaustively cataloged is of more value to the public than many books cataloged under the general plan of title, author, and subject. Our library has been open to the public more than 20 years, and in all that time but two books have been irrevocably lost. Our circulation averages about 20,000 annually."

Richmond, Ind. Morrisson-Reeves L. The library investigation has developed the fact that for many years a township tax has been levied and collected as a library fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of maintaining the library. It now turns out that during all this time there was no law authorizing the levying of the library tax by which the fund was raised and no law for expending the money as it was expended. Such being the case the money can be recovered, and the question now raised is, who is liable for it? The case is rather a peculiar one and it is possible that the authorities may compel a refunding of the money paid for library maintenance.

Prior to the passage of the law of March 11, 1895, there was no provision of law authorizing the levy and collection of tax for library purposes.

Rockford (Ill.) P. L. New quarters were recently opened affording much more commodious and convenient rooms for readers and students than before. Though numbering only 28,000 v. the books are well selected and the library receives much praise from visiting scholars and students.

Rockville (Cl.) F. P. L. The library was opened to the public June 13 with 3500 books. The library is supported by the income from a \$10,000 legacy by George Maxwell and from a \$10,000 appropriation by the town.

St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending May 1.) Added 1107; total 13,579; circulation 109,073. At an election held in April the vote on increasing the appropriation from three-tenths of a mill to one mill was 3179 in favor in a total of 4721; but lacking 95 of being two-thirds, the increase was not allowed, the appropriation being cut down to \$6500 for the coming year, against \$7000 last year.

South Orange (N. J.) F. L. Total 4571; circulation 19,519; receipts \$2114.46; disbursements \$1304.90. Paid into the building fund \$7743.98, all of which has been expended.

The new building was dedicated May 8. It is small, but pains have been taken to make it one of the finest public buildings in the Oranges. It is of simple Romanesque design. The high foundations are of cut white stone with dark pressed brick in the superstructure and an or-

namental roof of red tiles. The interior is finished throughout in oak. In the basement are the furnaces, lavatories, and storage-rooms. The main floor is partially divided into three parts. Fronting the arched entrance, which is reached by a broad stone stairway, is the office of the librarian. To the right is the book-room, and to the left is the reference and reading room, which is a particularly cosy and well-arranged part of the new building. A broad open fireplace of red pressed brick is one of its chief attractions. The board of trustees, which manages the library, has quarters in the attic of the building. The cost of the new structure was \$9000, all raised by subscription. The site was donated by E. V. Corinett, of South Orange.

The library, as a free institution, is in its 10th year, although it had flourished for a score of years before as a subscription library.

Springfield (Mass.) City L. A. (35th rpt.—year ending May 5, '96.) Added 3287; total 93,831. Issued, home use, 112,630 (fict. and juv. 65%); ref. use 25,210; Sunday use 1015. Visitors to reading-room 53,623; periodicals given out 30,573. New registration 1884; total card-holders 18,356.

The reconstruction of the lower story of the library has been completed and the fiction and juvenile departments transferred to that floor. The alterations allow much improved facilities for the ever-increasing volume of reference work.

"The Art Library has been thoroughly arranged and cataloged and is now available for reference and for art study. This library contains about 700 volumes of very choice works in the fine arts and in design and industrial art."

Stratford, Ct. At a recent town-meeting it was voted to pay the Library Association \$800 for the coming year. A resolution was also passed appointing a committee of three persons to obtain from the next legislature such amendment to the charter of the library association as will enable the town to have an equal representation upon the board of trustees of the association.

Syracuse (N. Y.) Central L. On account of the falling off in attendance at the reading-room on Sundays the trustees have decided to discontinue Sunday opening until October.

University of Virginia L., Charlottesville, Va. Messrs. McKim, Mead & White, the architects, report: "The plans for the Jefferson rotunda contemplate its exact restoration as far as the exterior is concerned, with the exception of the rear. The interior is thrown into one large rotunda. The dedication of the entire rotunda to use as a library, and the unquestionable fact that it was only practical necessity which forced Jefferson at the time it was built to cut the rotunda in two stories, and that he would have planned the interior as a simple single and noble room had he then been able to do so, induces us strongly to urge upon your board the adoption of a single-domed room, not

only as the most practical, but the proper treatment of the interior. We should advise the closing of the northerly entrance to the main library-room, except on special occasions. This would give the large floor-space of the main library for reading and reference tables, while any number of the alcoves could be glazed for special reference alcoves, and the two rooms in the basement, which would be in direct connection with the main floor of the library, could be used as ordinary reference and reading rooms. As the university expanded in the future, the four large rooms under the terrace would be available as additional library space." A sectional view of the rotunda was given in *The Alumni bulletin* for February.

Utica (N. Y.) P. L. The library has just completed its third year of work, and the report shows a gratifying increase in the number of volumes and in the circulation, and a general improvement in the condition of the library. During the year 3251 v. were added, making a total of 21,187; the library also contains 1469 pamphlets. For the year ending July 1, 1894, the total circulation of books was 55,122; for the next year it was 82,421, and for the year just closed it was 118,167, showing that the circulation has more than doubled in two years. The total number of readers registered was 8022, from a population of something over 49,000.

Of the circulation during the last year 47 per cent. was juvenile against 42 per cent. for the previous year. "This increase is due largely to work done in connection with the schools, in preparing certain courses of reading for the different grades, and by personal work with the pupils in their researches for essay writing, etc. The reference department was used by 5928 persons.

"A 'Finding list' of 347 pages was published last year. This is supplemented by a dictionary card-catalog of all new accessions, by a bulletin-board, and by the frequently published lists in the local papers.

"The Utica Public Library is an outgrowth of one of the school district libraries of New York state. It is controlled by a board of seven trustees, entirely independent of municipal government or political preferences, and supported almost entirely by the yearly appropriation from the city."

Washington (D. C.) F. L. The annual meeting of the trustees of the library was held July 1, and Gen. A. W. Greely, president of the board, submitted the first annual report. The library was incorporated July 5, 1895, and the preliminary work of organization was begun in August. "In October rooms were rented at the corner of Vermont avenue and H street, and the labor of accessioning, cataloging, classifying, and arranging the books was begun, at first under the direction of the library committee and later in charge of Miss M. A. Gilkey, a librarian of seven years' experience." "The library was opened to the general public on Monday, Jan. 6, 1896. The growth and development of the library have been astonishing, and the appli-

cations were soon so numerous that the services of an assistant librarian, Mrs. A. F. Stevens, were indispensable, and even then volunteer work has been constantly necessary." The library statistics since January are as follows: Added 3439; issued 39,122; registered borrowers 4055. "It almost seems incredible that 40,000 volumes should have been loaned within six months after a library of 3151 volumes opened its doors, but such is the record of the Washington City Free Library. It is unparalleled in the history of free libraries, and it is to be noted that the increase has been regular and unbroken." The two-book system is in use, and free access is granted to certain shelves; teachers are allowed to draw six books at a time.

Small travelling libraries, each containing 30 duplicates of sound light literature, are loaned for periods of 30 days to such associations as desire to borrow them.

Washington, D. C. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Electrical features of the new National Library at Washington. By George H. Draper. (*Electrical Review*, June 10.) 3¼ col.

West Mill Creek, Pa. Weis F. P. L. The library provided for by bequest of John Weis, of Fairview township, and built by Lyman Felheim, of Erie, has been finished, inspected, and accepted by the trustees.

The building stands in the western part of Mill Creek, about eight miles from Erie, and is the first edifice of the kind to be erected in this section of the state. It is about 40x50, of brick veneer, has a high basement story, which is cemented and is divided into kitchen and living rooms for the custodian; the first floor or story, entered by a wide hall, is divided into reading and book rooms and reception rooms. The reception-hall is finished in ash, and has a handsome mantel of choice design; the library and reading rooms are provided with oak furniture, book-cases and mantel. The second floor is reached at the back of the building by a wide and ornate stairway, at the top of which are the directors' rooms and offices. The hall is 30x50, and has a rostrum or stage at the front and over the front entrance to the building.

The library will be equipped at once with books and the reading-room with papers and magazines, and all citizens in Fairview and Mill Creek townships are privileged to become users.

Westford, Mass. Fletcher L. The new library building given to Westford by J. V. Fletcher, of Belmont, was dedicated on the afternoon of June 4. The building is of buff brick, with terra-cotta trimmings, erected at a cost of \$19,000. Mr. Fletcher's gift was \$14,000, in addition to which the town raised \$5000 necessary to complete the structure according to desired plans. The library is centrally located, has a frontage of 54 feet, and is 61 feet 6 inches deep. The stack-room is 25 feet 6 inches by 42 feet and is fireproof. It has a

book-capacity of nearly 40,000 volumes. On the second floor is an art gallery, 31 feet by 33 feet, and 15 feet high. The relic-room is 16 feet by 19 feet.

Wilmington (Del.) Institute F. L. (39th rpt. — year ending March 31, '96.) Added 1885; total 25,702. Issued, home use, 137,215 (fict. 56.49%; juv. 31.72%). New registration 1673; total card-holders 9127. 49 teachers' cards have been issued. Receipts \$17,261.21; expenses \$17,182.72.

There has been a decrease of 1125 in the circulation as compared with that of the preceding year. This the librarian attributes to lack of sufficient books to meet the demand in the departments of fiction and juveniles. In these two departments "121,027 v. (88.2%) circulated on a basis of some 4500 v.; while all the rest of the library sustained a circulation of only 16,188 v." Mr. Sewall thinks that "the use of these books has about reached its limit, no matter how many borrowers the library may have."

In November the librarian prepared "a list of 100 books for boys and girls in the grammar-school grade which made a little pamphlet of 16 pages 2½ x 4½ inches, and received the running title of 'Handbook No. 1.' 2500 copies were printed. 1739 copies were distributed to the grammar-school scholars and teachers; and to other schools as many as they could use. Application blanks were also distributed to all the grammar-school scholars not already borrowers at the library, and filled out in the school-room under the direction and supervision of the librarian. 300 new borrowers were thus added to the library. The co-operation of all the teachers was noticeable and gratifying, and the use and usefulness of the list has been much greater than was anticipated."

Yale University L., New Haven, Ct. The university library is shortly to be augmented by the addition of 6000 volumes, part of the library of the well-known historical scholar, Count Paul Riant, member of the French Institute and founder of the Society of the Latin Orient. The books are in various languages — French, German, Russian, and Scandinavian — and there are also in the collection 19,000 dissertations of the universities of Lund and Abo; it is especially rich in the departments of history and geography. The collection will be forwarded at once, and may be expected to reach here soon after commencement. The name of the donor is not announced.

Youngstown (O.) L. A. (Rpt. — year ending April 30, '96.) Added 1466; total 11,063; circulation 50,276; 976 persons have used reference-books; open 306 days.

92 teachers have taken 912 books on the school list, presumably for school work. "Also, sets of 25 books have been made up and loaned to such schools as were willing to take the responsibility, and the result has been very satisfactory. In this way the books reach many pupils who otherwise would not read a single

book from the library during the school year; it either being too far for them to come to the library or their parents not willing they should draw books. In this way we have circulated 15 sets of the better class of reading, which no doubt will result in good.

"Last year the experiment was tried of furnishing supplementary reading for class use in the different grades. 10 sets of 30 copies each were purchased, and were found to be so useful that six more were added this year with good results."

FOREIGN.

Bangkok, Siam. The free library movement has extended to Bangkok. In November last the first free reading-room and library was opened under the auspices of the Minister for Education, and has since that time led a fairly prosperous existence. The number of readers amounts to something over 1000 a week, and the lectures, which are given every week on the day before Wan Phra (the Uposatha day), are also fairly well attended and followed with close attention. The themes discussed do not lack a certain variety; thus we had one evening a lecture on the doctrine of karma, followed by one on bookkeeping. It is now the intention to have regular courses of lectures in connection with this institute. — *Athenæum*, Je. 6.

Berne, Bibliothèque Nationale Suisse. (1st rpt., 1895.) The library commission was appointed Jan. 15, 1895, by the Federal Department of the Interior, and on Jan. 23 a first meeting was held and organization effected. On March 15 Dr. Jean Bernoulli, of Bâle, was appointed librarian, Dr. Charles Geiser deputy, and André Langie assistant librarian. The actual work of the library began in temporary quarters on May 2, and the first eight months' work, while gratifying, has naturally been of a somewhat provisional character. The library's accession record now shows 23,000 works, amounting to over 37,000 volumes. It is probable that 1000 of these are duplicates, but the result fully justifies the creation of the library. The collection of Swiss literature, or *Helvetica*, is one of the special aims of the directors, and arrangements are planned and partly in operation by which all the publications of the government and of the various cantons will be duly sent to the National Library. The system of classification and cataloging to be followed was partially decided after a tour of observation to the libraries of Bâle, Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Munich, Heidelberg, Göttingen, etc. "The classification, which does not include bibliography, maps, and engravings, will hereafter consist of four great divisions, as follows: A. History, geography, and the auxiliary sciences; B. Law, administration, political economy; C. Literature, arts, sciences, theology, and pedagogy; D. Periodicals. Each division will be, as much as possible, in charge of one of the employees, who shall make it a specialty; the new additions will be interspersed in the various divisions, following the last books cataloged. The catalog system in use at the Library of Cassel has been adopted, with some

modifications; according to this, the titles will be printed in long alphabetical lists, of which 50 copies will be struck off; the titles can then be cut apart and pasted in volumes, leaving spaces for future additions. This system allows the titles to be classed separately under all desirable headings, and also makes it possible to send the lists to the most important libraries of Switzerland." There have been now cataloged 5655 works, about 8000 v. in round numbers, and more rapid progress depends upon increased financial resources.

Rules as to the use of the library have been deferred until the collection is permanently housed; it is then only that the library will be systematically open to the public.

Leeds (Eng.) P. F. L. (26th rpt. — year ending March 25, '96.) Added, ref. l. 1951; total 50,990. Added, lending l. 957; total 48,100. There are 24 branches besides the juvenile libraries and the travelling libraries, which contain 92,006 v., making the total number of v. in reference, central, and branch libraries 191,096. There were 142,884 v. used in the reference library, and the central news-room was visited by 688,723 persons. For home use there were issued 848,128 v. (fict. 466,051; juv. 278,745), being a turnover of 6.05%; of these 362,105 were issued from the central library. Receipts £7574.14.6; expenses £6944.0.3.

Oxford, Eng. Bodleian L. Additions by gift 9281; under copyright act 43,279; by purchase 7736. 62 mss. were bought during the year. The report, which also contains many interesting brief notes on the purchases of the year, is contained in a supplement to the *Oxford University Gazette* of May 12.

Perth (Ontario) P. L. (15th rpt. — year ending Ap. 30, '96.)

The rooms and library have been well patronized during the past year. There are now 3587 volumes in the library, and during the past year the number of volumes issued was 8216. The reading-room continues to be well supplied with the leading daily and weekly papers and with the best magazines and illustrated papers. The amusement of checkers and chess also continues to be enjoyed by many. The town council grants \$100.

Tokyo (Japan) L. (Rpt., 1895.) The report is printed in Japanese type, but the main details are also given separately in English in a 4-page folder. There were added during 1895, 5069 v., of which 993 were European, making a total of 145,802, of which 30,857 are European. The library was open 336 days, during which time 424,537 v. were used by 69,913 readers. A diagram shows the number of books in the library, the number of v. issued, and the number of readers for the past 17 years. In this period 1884 showed the highest figures, which were followed by an immediate drop, due to the removal of the library from the centre of the city, the charge of an admission fee, and the closing of the library in the evenings. The growth since then has been slow, but since 1890 there has been a noticeable gain.

Practical Notes.

"AMERICAN WOODS." — At the Drexel Institute an ingenious scheme has been devised to prevent the warping of the valuable volumes on "American woods," from the dryness of the atmosphere. A little case has been made in which these volumes, containing thin sections of woods, rest on a perforated shelf, below which is a pad which can be kept wet, so that there is always sufficient moisture within the case to prevent the cracking of the woods.

BINDING BOOKS. Detachable and interchangeable leaf-binding for books. (In *Official Gazette of U. S. Patent Office*, June 9, 1895, 75: 1598.) il.

BOOK-COVER DESIGNS. — The designing of book-covers is a branch of art-work in which there is a growing competition, and it is no uncommon thing for art students to visit the library in quest of information as to what publishers are most likely to accept designs, or to study such examples of recent designs as they are able to find.

The new books usually come to us in paper wrappers, and many of these contain a facsimile of the design of the book-cover itself. These wrappers, as a rule, go into the waste-basket before the books go into circulation. Why not save the wrappers, wherever they are good examples, either of elaborate designs or of designs appropriate and well adapted to the matter of the book, mount them upon heavy manilla paper, stamp them with the library stamp, and keep them for the use of art students and to loan to the schools of design and the art classes in the high schools? They would also furnish ample material, at the end of a year, together with such reference and other books as have the covers still fresh and unsoiled, for an interesting popular exhibition of the book-cover designs of the year, similar to the poster and other exhibitions which many libraries have given so successfully.

Where the year of publication is not the same as the year of purchase shown by the library stamp, it would be well to write the former date below the stamp, with the publisher's name — if this is not given on the cover — and, in the case of an especially effective combination of colors for any book-cover which do not show on the wrapper, the names of the colors also.

LINDA A. EASTMAN, *Dayton, O.*

CORRUGATED PAPER BOXES. — Corrugated paper boxes are now used by the state library of New York for sending books by mail, and the request is made that the books when returned by mail should be sent in the original package — which serves the double purpose of convenience to the borrower and prevention of the carelessness that sometimes sends a book back in a thin paper with a string around it, to the permanent damage of the cover.

EXHIBITING PHOTOGRAPHS. — Mr. Cutter has adopted for photograph shows in the Forbes

Library, Northampton, a scheme devised by Mr. Carr, of the Scranton Library. Instead of framing photographs, or tacking them to a wall, each is attached by two clips with hooked tops to a long wooden slat which in turn is suspended from picture-hooks at the top of the wall by a single cord running from one end of the slat over the hooks and so on to the other end of the slat. By this simple device each row of photographs can be lifted to any desired place on the wall and can be easily levelled; the expense is almost nothing, and the device can be used again and again. Mr. Cutter has recently been showing photographs of places arranged by countries, which has proved a very interesting method of grouping.

MUTILATING PERIODICALS.—Miss Kroeger has adopted at the Drexel Institute an object lesson as to the evils of mutilating periodicals. She has had the mutilated pages pasted on large cards with the section of the library law punishing such mutilations pasted underneath, and these are hung about the room as an example of "how not to do it," and as a suggestion of the legal consequences of such misdeeds.

RACK FOR NEWSPAPER FILES (described in *Inventive Age*, June, 1896, p. 88.)

This rack is the invention of C. W. Mooers, of Towanda, Pa. "The files are placed horizontally upon hooks in a rack, having its top extended from the wall at a greater distance than the bottom and inclined to the left in such a manner that the title of each paper is placed in front and to the left of the one next below—the whole of each title being always exposed to view."

Gifts and Bequests.

Baltimore. Johns Hopkins Univ. L. The name of the donor of the Dillman Oriental library was first publicly announced at the opening early in May. It was Mr. G. W. Gail, who then presented the library to the university. Mr. Gail was one of the citizens through whose generosity the Bluntschli library of political science was given to the university 13 years ago.

Burlington, Iowa. P. M. Crapo has given \$20,000 to Burlington for a library building. An additional \$20,000 has been raised for the same purpose, and a new building will soon be erected.

Grand Rapids, Wis. J. D. Witter, of Grand Rapids, Wis., has offered the public library board of Grand Rapids \$1000 as a fund to provide travelling libraries for Wood county. Mr. Witter has also given \$5000 to the Grand Rapids public library as an endowment fund. He has also offered Centralia, Wis., the same amount for a library building, if the city will agree to support a library.

Harrisburg, Pa. The late Mrs. Sara J. Haley, of Harrisburg, bequeathed to the trus-

tees of the public library \$60,000, which sum was recently put into their hands. Of this amount the income of \$50,000 will be available for the maintenance of the library and \$10,000 for the nucleus of a building fund. This bequest will be transferred to the trustees in the shape of securities and cash, and arrangements will at once be made to put into full force and effect the wishes of Mrs. Haley respecting the library. The trustees construe the gift as a fund to keep the library supplied with books. This will make it necessary to secure from some other source the funds for the compensation of the librarian.

New York. Columbia Univ. L. At a trustees' meeting on June 1, President Low announced a gift of \$6000 from Mrs. Samuel Lawrence and Mrs. J. R. Swords, for the founding of the Alexander I. Cotheal fund for the increase of the library. The income of the fund is to be devoted to the purchase of Oriental literature.

Northboro' (Mass.) P. L. George H. Eager, of Boston, a native of Northboro', has given \$1000 to be expended for books and works of art for the library. Mary Susan Davis, of Philadelphia, also a native of Northboro', has given \$500 for a similar purpose.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y. The Adriance family of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., propose to erect an "Adriance Memorial Library" building, provided the city furnish a site for the same, and also pledge itself to have the provision of the city charter limiting the amount of the annual appropriation for the purchase of books and periodicals repealed. The conditions have been accepted by the common council.

Yale Univ. L. At the annual spring meeting of the Yale corporation, held May 26, it was announced that the \$200,000 bequest from the Thomas Sloan estate would be devoted to the library funds.

Librarians.

AIKINS, Miss Ida D., of the Armour Institute Library, class of 1895-96, has been appointed a cataloger in the St. Louis Public Library.

BASKETT, Miss Emma B., has been elected librarian of the Sedalia (Mo.) Public Library.

BURDICK, Miss Esther E., was on July 8 appointed librarian of the Jersey City Free Public Library. Miss Burdick is a graduate of the N. Y. State Normal College and of the N. Y. State Library School. She has been connected with the Jersey City Library since its foundation in 1891, and has been acting librarian since Mr. Cole's resignation, Dec. 1, 1895.

CALKINS, Miss Mary J., of the Armour Institute Library, class of 1894-96, is organizing the public library at Highland Park, Ill.

DOUGHERTY, Miss Anna R., a graduate of the Drexel Institute library class, has been appointed assistant in the Free Library of Philadelphia.

DRAPER, Miss Miriam S., who has for the past year been employed in cataloging the Free Public Library of Ilion, N. Y., has been engaged to reorganize the Long Island City Public Library. She is a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1895.

EASTMAN, Miss Linda E., who has for a year past been assistant librarian at the Dayton (O.) Public Library, has been elected first assistant librarian of the Cleveland (O.) Public Library.

EHRlich, Miss Charlotte, a graduate of the Drexel Institute library class, has been appointed assistant in the cataloging department of the Philadelphia Free Library.

FALES, Mrs. Anna M., has been elected librarian of the West Medway (Mass.) Public Library.

FARR, Miss Mary P., of the Drexel Institute library class of 1895, has been appointed librarian of the Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.

HADLEY, Miss Anna, of Meriden, Ct., assistant librarian of the Hartford Public Library, has been elected librarian of the Ansonia Public Library, and will enter upon the duties of her position at once.

HOSMER, Dr. J. K., librarian of the Minneapolis (Minn.) Public Library, has made a notable addition to the good service he has previously rendered to American historical research in his new work "The life of Thomas Hutchinson," recently published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Dr. Hosmer has given much time and exhaustive research to the subject, and his biography of the governor of the Province of Massachusetts Bay is a worthy contribution to American historical literature.

HUSTED, Miss Harriet, a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1893, has been appointed acting librarian of the Young Woman's Christian Association, New York, succeeding Miss S. W. Cattell, resigned.

MANN, Miss Margaret, of the Armour Institute Library, class of 1893-'94 and 1895-'96, has been appointed cataloger and instructor in cataloging in the Institute library. Miss Mann will also be instructor in cataloging at the Wisconsin Summer School.

MARVIN, Miss Cornelia, a graduate of the Armour Institute Library, class of 1894-'95, and library assistant and organizer for Armour Institute in 1895-'96, has been appointed reference librarian and instructor in reference work at the Institute. Miss Marvin is agent for the Chas. Scribner's Sons' libraries in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa, and with Miss Eleanor Roper, of the Armour Institute Library, class of 1894-'96, has formed a Reference Bureau, with office at the Armour Institute of Technology, from which they furnish programs and reference lists for women's clubs, libraries, and individuals. Miss Marvin is to reorganize the public library at Davenport, Ia., during July and August.

NAGLE, Miss Kate E., a graduate of the Drexel Institute library class, has accepted a

position with the Literary Bureau of the *Ladies' Home Journal*.

NELSON, Miss Mary, has been appointed librarian of the Lawson-McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tenn., succeeding Miss M. L. Davis.

ODOR, Miss Virginia N., of the Armour Institute library class of 1895-'96, has been appointed a cataloger at the Cleveland Public Library.

PARADISE, Andrew W., for 15 years past librarian of the Ferguson Library, Stamford, Ct., died June 19.

SHUEY, Miss Elizabeth M., of the Armour Institute library class of '95-'96, has a position in the cataloging department of the John Crerar Library, Chicago.

TUCKER, Miss Rosa Lee, for eight years state librarian of Mississippi, was married June 18, at Okolona, Miss., to Mr. C. S. Battle, of Fort Worth, Texas.

NAMES of the recent graduates of the Pratt Institute Library School, with positions accepted by them, are given in the department "Library schools and training classes" in this issue.

Cataloging and Classification.

BOSTON (*Mass.*) P. L. Monthly bulletin of books added. v. 1, nos. 1-4. Jan.-Apr., 1896. 32 p. O.

"The purpose of this monthly bulletin is to present to the public lists of the books added to the central library, as soon as possible after they have been properly cataloged and shelved." It is a classified author list, printed by the linotype. It is rather curious to note in the fiction division, in which some 160 titles are listed, that 39 of Miss Braddon's books and nine of "The Duchess's" are included. A special list of books relating to "The Transvaal and the Boers" (34 titles) is appended.

CARNEGIE L., *Pittsburgh*. Bulletin. v. 1, no. 6. June, 1896.

COLDWATER (*Mich.*) F. P. L. Catalogue; compiled by Miss Margaret Parkhurst. Lansing, 1896. 14 + 458 + 12 p. O.

Consists of a classed (Dewey) catalog, author index, classed list of documents, pamphlets, etc., and subject index. An author-and-title fiction list covers p. 105-230, inserted between Literature and Geography. The Dewey numbering is used, with some modifications, except for fiction; entries are made under real names with references from pseudonyms. Short titles are given as far as possible, and initials only for authors' names, using the A. L. A. abbreviations. In the fiction division short descriptive annotations are included. The catalog is well and clearly printed in excellent type on rather heavy white paper, and is substantially bound in black cloth. It is easy to consult, and not too bulky for convenient handling.

COLUMBUS (O.) PUBLIC SCHOOL L. Catalogue.

Section 1: Biography and prose fiction.

Columbus, 1896. 256 p. F.

Arranged under Individual biography, Collective biography, English fiction, German fiction, and French fiction. Author entries are usually given under real names, with all practicable fullness; in individual biography, brief biographical characterizations, with dates of birth and death, are appended. Full analytical entries are included and contents of composite books are given. The imprint includes size, place of publication, and date, and the number of copies of a book contained in the library is indicated. Clearly printed on white paper with good margins, authors' names and call numbers being given in black-face type.

ENOCH PRATT F. L., *Baltimore*. [Quarterly] Bulletin, July 1, 1896.

A. C. McCLURG & Co. of Chicago have issued a useful little catalog of "Books for kindergartners." (18 p.) The list includes books that have proved of value and that are sought for by mothers, teachers, and students. It is arranged alphabetically by title, there is an index of authors, and the character of each book is briefly described.

MARION COUNTY (Ind.) L. Author list of books in the library and title list of fiction. Indianapolis, Ind., April, 1896. 42 p. O.

A title-a-line list, two columns to the page, printed in solid brevier on manila paper.

MARLBOROUGH (Mass.) PUBLIC SCHOOLS. Pupils' catalogue of Public Library, 1896; prepared by Miss Sarah E. Cotting, librarian. Marlboro, 1896. 122 p. O.

A classed author list of books suitable for young people; the letter *a* appended to an entry denotes that the book is suitable for readers from 12 to 18 years old; *b* indicates a book for children from eight to 12 years old, and *c* is appended to books for children under eight years. The department of History is rather closely divided under countries and periods, and comprises a good selection of historical fiction. There is an author list of juvenile fiction and one of "Educational works useful for teachers."

The NEW BEDFORD (Mass.) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for June has two reference lists, on "Nicaragua" and "Whittier."

The OTIS L. (Norwich, Ct.) *Bulletin* for June has a short list of titles in "Mythology, folklore, and fairy-tales."

PECK, A. L. Aids and guides for library and school. 3 p. O.

A short list of bibliographical aids in general literature, geography, history, natural and social science, which are in frequent use at the Gloversville Free Library.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin* for June devotes its usual reference list to "The Russian Empire."

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for June has special reading lists on "True sea stories," "The old Northwest," and "William Hickling Prescott." There is also a short list of the writings and biographies of Helen Hunt Jackson ("H. H.").

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT. Catalogue of valuable papers. N. Y., Munn & Co., 1896. 22 p. O.

A full subject index to the more important papers and articles contained in the *Scientific American*.

SOMERVILLE (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for June contains special reading lists on summer sports, and of new books for summer reading.

SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) CITY L. *Bulletin* for June contains a brief notice of H. C. Bunner, with list of books by him in the library, continues the author list of juveniles, gives the statistics for the year ending April 30, a classified list of additions, and the eighth select fiction list of the Massachusetts Library Club.

THIES, Miss E. S. A list of scientific medical journals in public and private libraries of Baltimore. (*In Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital*, May - June, 1896, 8: 114-128.)

In this list Miss Thies, the librarian of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, has gathered the titles of nearly 600 medical journals, and has thereby performed a work of great service to the thousands of students of medicine in Baltimore. 17 libraries are represented in the list, and of these seven are private (personal) libraries. Following the title of each journal are names of the libraries in which it may be found, with the number of volumes and years represented in each library. In this respect, however, the list is not complete, for in a number of instances all of the 17 libraries that contain a given journal are not indicated; but such omissions may be easily corrected in future editions.

The WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for June has a "special list" of "100 good novels."

FULL NAMES.

Gueërber, Hélène Marie Adeline (Myths of northern lands), as given by the author.—*From Providence (R. I.) Athenaeum*.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Conant, C.: Arthur (A history of modern banks of issue);

Moore, Willis Luther. (The work of the weather bureau in connection with the rivers of the U. S.);

Quinn, Denis Alphonsus (Stenotypy; or, shorthand by the typewriter);

Russell, James Earl (Extension of university teaching in England and America);

Townsend, J: Pomeroy (A history of savings-banks in the U. S.).

Bibliography.

ANIMAL SYMBOLISM. Evans, E. P. Animal symbolism in ecclesiastical architecture; with a bibliography. N. Y., Holt, 1896. 12 + 375 p. il. D. net, \$2.

The bibliography covers seven pages.

COSTUME. Katalog der Freiherrlich von Lipperheide'sche sammlung für Kostümwissenschaft, mit abbildungen. Dritte abtheilung: Büchersammlung. Erster band. Berlin, Franz Lipperheide, 1896. 48 p. Q.

This collection contains, besides a large collection of costumes, portraits, furniture, etc., a fine library of drawings and photographs (*einzelblätter*), books, mss., almanacs, and periodicals. The catalog of books will form the third division of the series of catalogs, which will be in five divisions: (1) portraits; (2) *Einzelblätter*; (3) books; (4) almanacs; (5) periodicals. The catalog of the books will be in three volumes, at 10 marks each. The first part shows the work to be done in a careful and comprehensive manner; titles are given in full, the bibliographical data are scholarly, and the typography clear and neat; there are numerous fac-similes of illustrations, title-pages, etc.

DUELING. "A complete bibliography of fencing and duelling," as practised by all European nations from the middle ages to the present day, by Capt. Carl A. Thimm, is in preparation for early publication by John Lane, of the Bodley Head, London.

GREEN, Prof. W. H.: *The Presbyterian and Reformed Review* for July publishes a bibliography of the writings of Prof. Green, of Princeton. The works are arranged chronologically, and comprise p. 509-521. Rev. Joseph H. Dulles, librarian of Princeton Seminary, prepared the bibliography.

NEW ENGLAND INDIANS. Winsor, Justin. The New England Indians: a bibliographical survey, 1630-1700. Cambridge, John Wilson & Son, University Press, 1896. 35 p. 8°.

Reprinted from the proceedings of the Mass. Hist. Society.

PAINTING. Two of the three volumes of Richard Muther's "History of modern painting" have already been issued (London: Henry & Co.), and not the least valuable part of this important work is the extensive bibliography included in each volume. It is arranged according to the chapters of the work. In v. 1 the bibliography includes p. 557-586; v. 2, p. 775-804.

SWEDISH PERIODICALS. Lundstedt, Bernhard. Sveriges periodiska litteratur: bibliografi, v. 2, 1813-1894. Stockholm, Aktiebolaget H. Klemmings Antiquariat, 1896. 4 + 324 p. O.

This second volume completes the record of Swedish periodical literature from 1645 to 1894. The list is chronological, each entry

being consecutively numbered, while an alphabetic index appended refers to the entry number instead of to the page. There are careful descriptive and bibliographic notes of more or less fullness on each publication listed, and the work should be a valuable addition to Swedish bibliography.

WITCHCRAFT. Winsor, Justin. The literature of witchcraft in New England. Worcester, Mass., Chas. Hamilton, 1896. 25 p. 8°.

Reprinted from the proceedings of the Am. Antiquarian Society; includes only the leading literature of the subject.

INDEXES.

CUMULATIVE INDEX to a selected list of periodicals, v. 1, no. 1, June, 1896. Cleveland, O., Public Library, 1896. 32 p. Q.

In the June issue of the L. J. (p. 278) the proposed plan and scope of this index were fully given, and in this initial number these plans are carried out in a way that should make the index one of the most useful of current library reference aids. Articles are entered under author and subject, stories and poems under author and title, and in the case of some stories subjects also, and portraits of well-known persons are indexed under subjects. Reference is made to current numbers of magazines, save in cases where such numbers were received too late for consideration. Reviews are indicated by the word "[Rev.]," and catch headings at the top of the page form a useful feature. The style closely follows that of the "Annual literary index," though the exigencies of the linotype, by which the index appears to be printed, seems to have limited the type to brevier, which is used for all entries and for references, headings, etc., that are usually given in italics. 50 magazines and periodicals are fully indexed, and the more important articles in several minor publications are also noted. The "Annual literary index" indexes 175 periodicals, but its greater scope is probably more than offset by the monthly publication of the new venture. If this index, with its valuable "cumulative" feature, can be successfully continued and developed, it should prove a boon to librarians and readers.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Stepniak. — In 1887 the LIBRARY JOURNAL gave the real name of Stepniak, the Russian exile, as A. I. Ertel. The Cleveland Public Library catalog, 1889, is doubtful about his real name, "said to be Mikhail Dragomanoff;" and since then most catalogs have followed Cleveland. At the time of his death, about six months ago, the *Publishers' Circular* and other papers gave his real name as Serge Michaelovitch Kravchinsky, and the *Spectator* in its review of his latest book, "King Stork and King Log," confirms the name as given at the time of his death.

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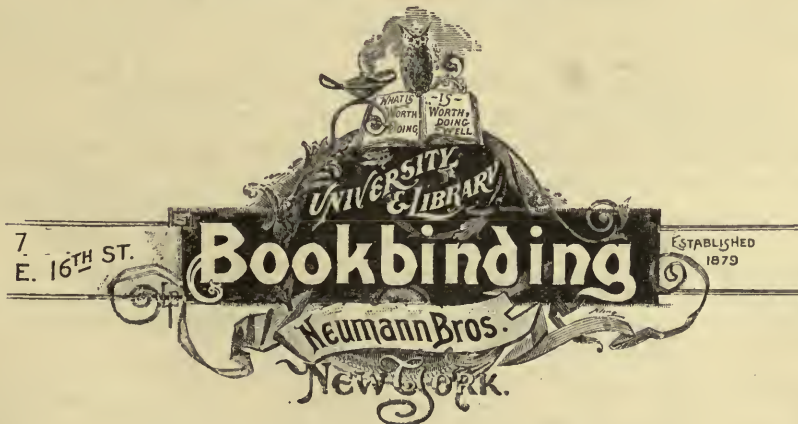
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THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY, as without aid it must be left unfinished.
The larger building is the stack (not shown in the other picture) ; the smaller building will take the place of that shown in the other picture.



THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY, as it ought to be completed.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 21.

AUGUST, 1896.

No. 8

THIS is the last word before the Cleveland Conference. Nothing more is to be said, except that everybody who can go should go, and that everybody who can go and does not go will be sorry he or she stayed at home. In all the range of national meetings there is no conference which both from the educational and the recreation points of view gives better results than that of the American Library Association. The Conference at Cleveland ought to bring together a great many librarians who have never before come into personal touch with their associates of the profession, and they, especially, ought to avail themselves of the opportunity. Above all, bring the trustees along.

ESPECIALLY notable in the Conference arrangements is the issue in printed form, before the meeting, of the reports of the several committees and sections. It has long been desired to have these reports in the hands of members before the Conference, to save time and stimulate discussion and suggestion, and this year the idea has been carried out with excellent results. The preliminary reports, program, and itinerary are issued in an eat pamphlet, which gives an interesting bird's-eye view of the whole Conference and offers, indeed, most alluring prospects of pleasure and instruction. This is a commendable piece of enterprise on which not only is the Secretary of the A. L. A., to be congratulated, but the members and committees furnishing reports deserve the hearty thanks of the Association at large. It would probably not be advisable to include in such a preliminary publication the general papers, because "leave to print" in advance is apt to detract from the interest of the paper when read, and make attendants at the Conference careless about their presence at the reading of the paper and consequently at the ensuing discussion. Mr. Iles's paper, as printed, is, however, an exception to the rule, as it is practically a report of progress and, as such, invites advance consideration.

ONE feature of the Conference will be the session devoted to the consideration of the proposed Supplement to the A. L. A. catalog. Miss Cutler is sending out advance sheets of this list, for comment and suggestion, to a

large number of members of the profession and bibliographical experts in the endeavor to obtain the very best results. Of course, if each one present at the Conference should talk about each book it would take not simply the proverbial week of Sundays but a Sabbatical year to thrash out differences of opinion, and what is to be hoped is that librarians will come prepared, after careful study of the proposed Supplement, to make suggestions and criticisms on general lines, with incidental references only to particular books. The one general question which arises is whether in this Supplement, devoted chiefly to later books, the principle of selection has not given way to the principle of collection. The perspective does not seem to be quite that of the earlier work and it might be worth while to designate by an asterisk or otherwise those books in the list which are most important for small libraries making their collections on the scale of the original A. L. A. catalog. The A. L. A. catalog has already accomplished a great deal for practical library work, and the Supplement will almost double its value. The thanks which the library profession owes to Miss Cutler for this as well as for other pieces of work can scarcely be overstated.

THE descriptive paper, by Mr. Foster, on the plans of the new Providence Public Library is admirably illustrative of the large way in which a problem of library architecture should be treated. Here is a building built not only for the books but for the reader, from within outward, with co-operation at every step between librarian and architect. The reader's path is to be made straight, literally, for everything that he wants to do, and every possible accommodation for reader and student seems to have been thought out, with several new details which have not before, so far as we know, been included in any library building. The provision for copying work, in the room where dictation may be done to an amanuensis, and in the dark room where photographic copies of maps and illustrations may be developed, are particularly novel. Mr. Foster, as usual, is serving at once the people of Providence and the library profession generally. It is to be hoped, as suggested elsewhere, that the same

thoughtful attention may be given to the problem of housing the National Library in its new building as has been given in the case of the Providence building.

It is gratifying to note that a good start has been made toward the publication of the proposed International catalog of scientific literature. The presence, at the Conference in London, of Dr. Billings as a representative of this country was significant and valuable, for few scholars in this country or elsewhere have done more to show the possibilities of such work on a large scale than has the editor of the great medical catalog issued from the Surgeon-General's office. That such an enterprise should be started under the auspices and under the direct control of the Royal Society, one of the oldest institutions of its kind in the world, gives it a standing and surety which is the best evidence of success in the future. It is interesting that the new catalog is to begin with the 20th century, or rather with 1900, which will doubtless be accepted bibliographically as the beginning of the new century, although it does not quite work out in relation with the calendar.

It is much to be regretted that the "race issue" should seem, in any phase, to find its way into the library field. Probably no class of people are more desirous of putting aside questions of race and birth and breeding, in the best democratic fashion, than are librarians, for they all recognize that a great part of their mission is to make good Americans out of all classes of material, whether of bad Americans or good importations. Mr. Dana's remarks in the July *Bookleaf* are doubly unfortunate, because they suggest race prejudices in library relations, and because, worst of all, they seem to impute to another librarian a prejudice which, if it existed, would lessen the value of his work in his local field. Mr. Bolton corrects elsewhere Mr. Dana's misapprehension, but it seems scarcely fair, in turn, to except to this utterance as coming from the president of the A. L. A. While the officers of the association ought, of course, to be extremely careful in all their representative relations, it is not the president of the A. L. A. but the librarian of the Denver Public Library who speaks in this instance, as Mr. Dana himself would be the first to point out.

Communications.

THE BROOKLINE LIBRARY AND "THE BOOK-LEAF."

MAY I break the silence which usually seems best when one is attacked in print, by replying to a statement made by the president of the A. L. A. in the July *Bookleaf*?

Whether or not it is well for a librarian, while an A. L. A. officer, to criticise in print another librarian and his library I will not consider. Mr. Dana says: "When I have been in Brookline I have had my ears assailed with lamentations over the dominance of the Irish in that highly respectable town. And it occurs to me, in view of the woes which seem to follow the rule of the Irish in that and some other places" . . . etc., etc. Mr. Dana visited Brookline before I became librarian, if I am not mistaken; the assistants are able to recall very nearly the time of his visit. I did not know him then. In 1893-94 and in 1894-95, covering the possible years of his visit, the town clerk was and is an American; four in 1893-94 and in 1894-95 all of the five selectmen were Americans; the treasurer of the town was and is an American; the assessors were and are all Americans; eight of the nine members of the school committee were and are Americans, and the ninth is a capable Irishman whose family have lived here for generations; 11 of the 12 members of the library board were and are Americans, and the twelfth is a civil engineer and author of high standing.

What does the president of a national organization mean when he puts in print over his own name such statements? There never has been a dominance of the Irish here, although such a state of affairs would not be so unfortunate as he seems to believe. He thinks local history is not a legitimate interest for a librarian. Let me say that in a town of unusual wealth and leisure, where there is constant use of local histories and genealogies, such an interest on the part of the librarian is and should be an element in his success. But so also (in this case) is his interest in the Irish, which has for its witness two delivery stations established recently in their parts of the town.

C. K. BOLTON.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, {
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ENGLISH EDITIONS OF FICTION.

PERHAPS there are some librarians who would be glad to have their attention called to English editions of fiction in case of certain writers. For example, many of the books of James Payn, Mrs. Oliphant, Charles Reade, F. W. Robinson, R. D. Blackmore, not to mention many others, are much more legible in the English than the American edition, besides in many cases being cheaper, duty free. The "Catalogue of works of fiction," published by Cedric Chivers, Bath, England, which I suppose he is glad to send free to any library, is quite helpful in ordering fiction by English authors.

WILLIS K. STETSON.

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL LIBRARY.

BY R. R. BOWKER.

AT last there is to be an American National Library worthy of the name. The new building, next the Capitol, which will house five million or more volumes, is the most comprehensive and fitting home for a national or governmental library existing in the world, and it is expected that by February, 1897, the official date, or somewhat later within that year, the books may be transferred to the new building. No more interesting problem has ever been presented, in the whole history of libraries, than that of the reorganization of the library of the nation in this new building, and Congress has very wisely authorized the joint committee on the library, of which Senator Hansbrough is chairman, to sit during the present recess and prepare a report and comprehensive plan "for the reorganization, custody, and management of the new library building and the Library of Congress." It is probable that this committee, which is likely to sit in November, will give hearings, if desired, to library authorities, and it is proposed at the Cleveland conference to move for the appointment of a special committee of the American Library Association with that in view. The organization of the great central national library is a matter of the first importance to all libraries throughout the country, large and small, and some preliminary suggestions seem, therefore, especially in order at the present time.

The present title of "the Library of Congress" denotes the historical origin of the library and one of its most important functions. It seems to have been originally planned to afford the members of the national legislature the material and information necessary for them in shaping legislation, and it has been the chief value of the veteran and distinguished librarian of Congress, during his long years of service, that he has himself so largely fulfilled this function. It has been Mr. Spofford's personal pride that he has been prepared to give to Congressmen the volumes, references, and information which they desired, at the shortest possible notice, notwithstanding the chaotic condition of the library resulting from the inadequate space at its disposal of late years, and his success in that direction has earned him the general appreciation and gratitude of

members through many successive Congresses. That function of the Library of Congress is a vital one. Nothing can be more important than that all possible information, on any subject of legislation, should be instantly at the service of the members of the Senate and of the House, and in the reorganization of the library this should be kept in view. It might be wise, indeed, to preserve the present accommodations in the Capitol with this purpose in mind, the so-called Senate and House libraries being retained as reference-rooms for the immediate use of the members of the respective houses, with the understanding that it should be the duty of the officers of the library to place in these rooms from day to day all the authorities — or the principal authorities — bearing on the subjects of legislation on the calendar for that day. This is what is done in every well-organized university library, and certainly no effort or cost should be spared to equip our national legislators with all the material they need. The present library room or a portion of it could then be used as a reference library for the specific use of the members of Congress, with such arrangements for electric communication and delivery of books by means of the tunnel between the new library building and the Capitol as would enable any book from the main library to be brought to the Capitol on demand. This reference collection, duplicated in whole or in part from the main collection, should be the Library of Congress proper, and its head, perhaps retaining the title of Librarian of Congress, should be one of the officers but not the final executive of the national library.

For it is time to recognize, in name, the fact that the Library of Congress, so called, is now the library of the nation as well as of Congress; and as a part of the plan of reorganization it should undoubtedly be designated as the National Library. The general administration of this library should be entrusted to the best library executive who can be found within the nation, and he will have before him an opportunity not second to that of which Panizzi availed himself at the British Museum a generation ago. Such an executive will have indeed so large a field and so wide a range that he should not himself be burdened with

any detail, and every division of the library should be headed by a competent executive officer, who together would form the staff and council of the director. The care of the building itself will require a superintendent of large ability, and one or two other divisions requiring such separate heads may briefly be noted.

First among these in a national library should be the curator of public documents, whose duties should be to collect, and be prepared to give information from, every public document issued by the Government in any of its divisions from the beginning, so far as these can be procured, the publications of all the states and of the municipalities in this country, and the publications of other countries. This is in itself an enormous task, but such a collection, wisely administered, would be of proportionate value.

Scarcely second in importance should be the curator of history, with especial reference to as complete a collection as possible in American history, local as well as national. Such a division cannot, of course, be absolutely complete, but as part of its work it should register, in its card catalog or otherwise, information as to all volumes on American history not in the National Library, but known to exist elsewhere, so that the student of American history consulting the records of the National Library would be as comprehensively informed as to historical records as could be made possible, without going outside the building. The present arrangements existing among the larger libraries for the loan of books for the use of students would make such a system of the very highest value.

Doubtless the National Library will also include, as does the British Museum, a department of prints and a department of manuscripts, and it would be well if the several collections existing in the Department of State and elsewhere should be brought together in the new building to form an adequate national collection of manuscripts. It is scarcely necessary to suggest other divisions, of considerable though less importance, which should have separate headship.

It has already been proposed that the copyright record office should be separated from the duties of the Librarian of Congress. Under a fully satisfactory plan of reorganization the office of copyright record, which should be a separate bureau, should, nevertheless, be one

of the divisions of the National Library. It is in every way related to the National Library, and the new building affords at last adequate space not only for keeping the present records but for the organization of such of the old records now rotting in the vaults of the Capitol as are not already destroyed beyond possibility of recovery. Such a measure would have passed Congress at the last session but for a difference of opinion between the two houses as to the details of method, and the necessity for a change is emphasized by the fact that, notwithstanding all the light thrown on the inadequacy and badness of the present methods in the recent investigation, these methods are still employed. For instance, the receipts of the copyright fees, in checks, etc., instead of being banked and properly accounted for, as would be the case in any other public department or in any private business, are still sent out in their original form by the Librarian of Congress, in payment of the petty bills of the library.

It would seem also that the work of handling and distributing the public documents should be massed in the new library building. The new bureau having charge of this work was made by the law a division of the Government Printing Office, and it is an even question whether such a bureau belongs more properly there or as a division of the National Library. It has relations, in fact, on both sides, and it is of comparatively small importance whether it is placed on the one or the other side. But at least until the Government Printing Office has a decent and safe home of its own, room for the work of the Superintendent of Public Documents should be provided in the new library building, where the vast accumulation still burdening the Government Printing Office and the several departments could be collected together and properly utilized.

The problem of the final shaping of the National Library is so large and so important that these few suggestions have been made chiefly for the purpose of calling out a discussion at the Cleveland conference. Not only the best opinion and experience of American librarians but all the information that can be had from the experience of foreign national libraries should be made the most of now if we are to have at Washington a really adequate American National Library.

THE EDUCATIONAL WORK OF THE JERSEY CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.*

BY ESTHER E. BURDICK, *Librarian.*

EVERY properly conducted library, especially that of the free public variety, is by right a genuine educational element in the life of its community. Its importance is enhanced by the fact that it belongs essentially to the people. More than any other public institution, the public school alone excepted, it reaches the masses. To all classes and all ages it offers both instruction and amusement; literally, it very often amuses while it instructs, and instructs while it amuses. This fact, that it reaches out to and welcomes all, that it carries out the gospel injunction of "going into the highways and the hedges" is the chief reason of its existence to-day. Storehouses of books, as such, belonged to the Middle Ages, and they have had their day. This is the Golden Age of progress, and the watchword of every living, working library should be, "The greatest good to the greatest number."

Is the Jersey City Free Public Library in any sense an educational institution?

When the extremely large percentage of fiction in our circulation is considered, a natural doubt may arise in the minds of many as to whether this can be possible. But it must be remembered that we loan a very great number of books during the year. For the 12 months ending November 30, 1895, we reported nearly 49,000 volumes of good, solid, improving literature (not a novel among them) circulated as home reading. Certainly here was room for a little educational work. I will leave this much-debated question of fiction, and simply show you what we are really doing. I think you will agree with me that "good does occasionally come out of Nazareth," and that our library is a distinct part of the educational system of our city.

The work divides itself into two parts, the first of which is our co-operation with the schools and teachers. Here we place our system of school classics, which is becoming very extensive, numbering, in fact, about 1700 volumes. These are divided into some 50 sets, varying in size from 25 to 50 volumes each. They are selected by a member of our board of trustees, who was formerly a school principal and is now principal of the high school, and

who knows thoroughly from experience what children like, as well as what they ought to like. The names of these books may be of interest to you; indeed, I am glad to have you know not only what we recommend, but what we actually put into the hands of the children. The following list is, I think, complete: Hawthorne's "True stories of American history," "Wonder book"; Johonnot's "Ten great events," "Stories of our country"; Eggleston's "Stories of great Americans"; Lamb's "Tales from Shakespeare"; Irving's "Sketch-book"; Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield"; De Foe's "Robinson Crusoe"; "The Arabian nights"; Æsop's fables; Andersen's fairy-tales (two series); Grimm's fairy-tales; Scudder's "Fables and folk-lore"; Dodgson's "Alice in Wonderland"; Dickens's "Christmas carol"; Ruskin's "King of the Golden River"; Francillon's "Gods and heroes"; Baldwin's "Old stories of the east"; Burroughs's "Birds and bees"; Andrews's "Seven little sisters" (two series); Sewell's "Black Beauty"; "The Swiss Family Robinson," and a number of selections from the *Youth's Companion*, consisting principally of travels and description.

You will observe that history, travel, natural science, mythology, ethics, and a fair share of fiction so good that it may be termed classic, each finds a place on this list.

These books are circulated through the medium of the public (and also several parochial) schools. Once each month they are sent out in sets, the principals of the schools being made responsible for their safe keeping. They are used in the classes as supplementary reading, and are also allowed to circulate among the children as home reading. At the end of each month they are returned to the library to be again sent out in a few days. In this manner a goodly number of juveniles of very fair literary character and excellent moral flavor, and instructive as well, are circulated monthly among our boys and girls. It is our belief that by this system not only is much useful knowledge inculcated, but that also the beginning of a taste for good reading is imparted. Many teachers have assured me that these books are doing good work. I have myself interviewed a number of young people on the subject, and found in them a degree of en-

* Read before the New Jersey State Library Association, Princeton, May 20, 1896.

thusiasm that was very encouraging. In fact, the books are so very well liked by the children that many more copies might be circulated directly through the library.

Next in importance to the school classics comes the work done by means of teachers' cards. Every teacher in the city, whether connected with a public or private school, or who is engaged in any actual work of teaching, is entitled not only to an ordinary reader's card, but also to a teacher's card, which allows its holder six books at one time. This privilege of having six or seven books with which to illustrate and enlarge the subject in hand is one of great value to the thinking, working, up-to-date teacher. That it is appreciated is shown by the fact that for the year ending November 30, 1895, about 6000 volumes were circulated in this way among the teachers, independently of the classics. As a rule, fiction is not allowed to be drawn on these cards. However, if a first-class novel, which is evidently meant to illustrate the subject indicated by the line of books asked for, is requested, we do not hesitate to send it. As you all know, history, literature, almost every branch of science and of art, almost every phase of actual life, each finds its illustration and exponent in fiction. Consequently we have novels historical, descriptive of travel, musical, theological, sociological, and a host of others. A fact emphasized by an agreeable and forcible illustration is received graciously and makes a lasting impression. So if the teacher calls for history of the French Revolution, what can bring the terrific events of the time more vividly before the mind's eye of the pupil than Dickens's "Tale of two cities." We never refuse to supplement historical lists with Scott, or even with Weyman or Crockett, and descriptive lists of English or Scottish travel with Black, Blackmore, and kindred authors. For American history, Coöper and such stories as Harold Frederic's "In the valley," some of Mrs. Barr's on colonial life, Bynner's "Zachary Phips," and similar works are never denied. As a rule, these books are the result of much careful and thorough study, and generally speaking they are correct from the historical and descriptive point of view. Many of them give impressions of the times and scenes they portray much more vividly than an ordinary school history could, and as an adjunct in fixing what the children call dry facts in their minds, they are certainly very serviceable as well as agreeable.

The literature of various countries we allow to be illustrated by the fiction of typical writers, as Hawthorne, Bret Harte, or Miss Wilkins for American. We are, however, extremely careful that nothing shall go out on these cards except what can be used in actual educational work.

In several of our public schools the older pupils have formed themselves into geographical societies. It is their habit to take up some special country and make as thorough a study of it as possible. At such times the resources of the library are heavily taxed; indeed it often happens that not one book on the subject in hand is left on the shelves. Everything in our power is done for these youthful students; we buy whatever may be published on travel and description, if feasible. We have sometimes become so reduced that we have been obliged to send out old editions of cyclopædias, Bâdeker's guides, unbound periodicals, and, in fact, everything that contained a scrap of information on the desired subject. These societies seem to be productive of much good.

The principal of our high school has recently prepared lists of good reading for several of his grades. We have supplied the call numbers of such of these books that we own, and have made a number of copies on the typewriter for the use of the pupils. This plan for inducing good reading among the young people seems to be working admirably—witness the fact that the books named are continually in demand, and never now on the shelves.

The second part of our educational work is that which is direct and personal with the children themselves. This is really quite extensive. Of course, in the circulating department, we can exercise but comparatively little supervision over the reading of our young patrons. The most we can do is to see that unsuitable works do not unwittingly fall into their hands, and to gently guide towards better reading by pointing out the good qualities of a more desirable book, rather than by a wholesale condemnation of the one just returned. Incidentally, no one, not even a child, cares to be told that he is an ignoramus, and the successful minister seldom makes converts by going bluntly against prejudices. Probably you have all learned from experience that the reader needs very delicate handling, even if he asks for assistance in the choice of books. It is a part of our work to see that the children are not deceived by misleading titles and peculiar names of authors.

I call to mind a small boy who was determined, in spite of the remonstrances of the attendant, to carry off a very large and serious work by the Rev. Thomas Dick. He could see the binder's title as the book stood on the shelf, "Dick's Works," and was evidently laboring under the impression that "Ragged Dick" had evolved into literature. It is a part of our work at the library to rescue the young from such pitfalls. Also in our station work, when the particular very light juvenile which is called for is not in, we endeavor to supply something of a little better grade in fiction, or a suitable work of history or travels, biography or adventures. Our efforts in this direction are often far from being appreciated, but that occasionally the seed sown falls on good ground I will illustrate by giving the case of a boy to whom we sent tentatively Miss Seawell's "Decatur and Somers." The book was kept a due length of time and apparently read, for when it was returned a note came with it, thus: "Give me more of *them* hero books."

To the call numbers of works distinctively juvenile in character we prefix the letter J. I should say, however, that this rule is not infallible for determining the age status of a book, for necessarily there are many of our volumes not thus marked which can be, and often are, of much use to our younger readers.

Our reference work for and with the children is extensive and interesting, and often far-reaching. We are a good deal hampered for want of room, but in a case of emergency fill up our work-room with the boys and girls. Many times during the past winter we have been obliged to accommodate more than 50 children at one time, all busily engaged in seeking information of some sort, usually on subjects given them by their teachers. Many are looking for material to aid them in debates; very many more are reading up on matters heretofore unknown to them, but about which they have been requested to write something. It is very interesting to note their various subjects. Every holiday receives special attention. For weeks before the birthdays of Washington and of Lincoln all available information in regard to the lives, words, and deeds of these patriots is greatly in demand. Arbor Day has just passed, and I venture to say that many of the children of Jersey City have a much better knowledge of the varieties and habits of trees than ever before. Many, too, have just become acquainted with Horace Mann, whose birthday

has recently been celebrated. Memorial Day was also in great requisition, and our stock on this subject being somewhat limited, I caused to be typewritten a number of copies of the very good article in "Appletons' Annual" of 1887. We have also simplified the same for the use of the younger pupils. You will observe that we are obliged to resort to many devices in order to satisfy the demands of our constituency. We can usually do something for each, but I must confess that I was fairly nonplussed, and felt very much like sending word to the teacher, "Thus far shalt thou come and no farther," when an unsophisticated miss proffered a request for something on "a day's enjoyment." I was in doubt whether to give her a book on bicycling or on church-going, but finally compromised on a juvenile ethical work which told children how to be happy though good. One of my recent compensations (that is what I call all particularly good happenings) was a dear little yellow-haired girl who could not have been more than nine years old. She hesitatingly advanced into the reference-room, with a diffident yet expectant look, and in answer to inquiries confided to me that she wanted to read about "the horth." A very small and very youthful zoölogy was found, which just suited her little needs. Then there was the small boy who actually asked for a book on the birds of Jersey City. He was obliged to content himself with the birds of New Jersey.

Now all these little items may seem trivial, but they go to make up a grand total. Shall we withhold our hand because we can contribute but a mite? The children are the hope of our nation. By and by they will help to make up the nation itself. It is a source of regret to me that I cannot do more. Many things which I can see would be very beneficial I have been obliged to postpone for lack of time. From the beginning of my work in Jersey City I have cherished the hope of making many special lists on useful subjects, with abundant explanatory notes; these to be prepared particularly for the use of the young. They have never yet been made, but I have not given them up as hopeless. As time goes on and our facilities become enlarged, I trust that our educational work may widen out and become much more of a power than now. But for the present we must content ourselves with what our hands find to do from day to day, remembering that our library is a school in which not only our children but we ourselves are learners.

THE EVOLUTION OF A DISTRICT LIBRARY.*

BY ANNA R. PHELPS, *Utica, N. Y.*

MAY an amateur in library work presume to address you? She comes offering no advice, threatening no criticism, advancing no theories to skilled librarians. Her contribution is only a report of small beginnings, of personal experience which may be suggestive and helpful to some, as showing the value of a library to a rural community, and one way to secure it. The recital of this experience will prove that the refining influence of library work is permeating and broadening out the little hamlets as well as the great centres of our populous Empire State.

At the southern end of Skaneateles lake, within a radius of perhaps a mile from district school-house No. 4 of the town of Scott, are scattered at intervals about 20 or 30 houses, representing a permanent population of between one and two hundred souls. On the west side of the lake near the "head" is the Glen Haven Sanitarium, a famous water-cure, established in 1850 by Dr. Jackson, late of Dansville. This hotel is kept open the year round, and is by many of its habitués regarded as a second home. Hither during the summer months come many who have great faith in the hydropathic treatment here administered, others who find the air a tonic for nerves, or are attracted by the charm of nearness to nature, whose "visible forms" here invite communion with her as "she speaks her various language."

From June to October a steamer makes two daily trips between the village of Skaneateles and the Glen, and all along shore on either side of the lake are summer cottages. During these months, therefore, the population is much increased. The connection of the permanent residents with the outer world in the winter time is by means of an infrequent stage which is sent from the hotel to the village of Homer, 11 miles to the south, in Cortland county. The native population are not travellers. Many of them have never seen Carcassonne, and there will always be a large proportion of them who are content to pass their lives in the lowlands.

For many years I have made an annual visit to this place, and am personally acquainted with nearly all its inhabitants. In 1892 it

seemed to me worth while to interest the young people, boys and girls, in what was occupying the mind of the nation that Columbian year. I proposed to them one day, before the close of the summer term, that we organize a club; that one of the objects of this club should be to secure a flag for the school, that the second should be to read the life of Columbus.

Both of these ends were attained by the American Flag Club. The children raised money by doing little services for which they were paid, and friends made us voluntary contributions. Our banner, a fine U. S. regulation flag, was raised with appropriate ceremony, a United States army officer in uniform assisting, on the 3d of August, a day chosen by the children as peculiarly interesting, it being the 400th anniversary of the departure of Columbus from Palos. With a balance in the treasury it was determined to buy a Webster's International dictionary for the school.

During the winter the interest in keeping up the fund for further projects resulted in our having in June, 1893, \$15 in hand. That summer \$25 was made by the sale of sweet-peas, and by the gifts of friends the sum of \$50 was reached. In August the American Flag Club offered this \$50 to the district, provided a book-room should be prepared in the school-house, and suggested that five trustees be appointed to incorporate this library at Albany, where state aid to the amount of \$50 might be asked.

This gift was accepted and the wood-room between the two entries of the conventional country school-house was ceiled and fitted with shelves for the reception of books. This room is capable of holding about 1500 volumes.

A very inferior Sunday-school library of less than 100 volumes was handed over to us. To this were added \$100 worth of selected books, and a few of miscellaneous character, given by friends. In October of 1893 the Glen Haven Library began its career with 280 books. The school-mistress consented to be its librarian for one year without salary.

In making choice of new books there were many tastes to consult. The occupations of the people are various. Some of the men build boats, in a leisurely fashion, more sail them with little of the spirit of the expert

* Paper read at the Syracuse meeting of the New York Library Association, May 29, 1896.

yachtsman, and some fish from them with all the tranquillity of an Isaak Walton. Some cultivate small farms, have a few cows, sheep, and hens, and are willing, if it is suggested to them, to supply vegetables, milk, eggs, and butter to their temporary neighbors. One man raises choice fruits, he has also an apiary which yields very good honey. The women bring their share into the family coffer by laundering, by caring for the "summer boarder" in their own homes, or by service at the hotel and in the cottages; and the children, having discovered that there is money in the sweet-pea idea, have adopted it as their own and set up rival flower-stands at the hotel.

Among the books, then, must be Prime's "I go a-fishing" and "American fish and how to catch them," for the fishermen; for the builders "Canoe and boat building," "A boy's workshop," and "Practical carpentry"; for the farmers "American cattle and farm-book," "Elements of agriculture," and those classics of Peter Henderson's, "Gardening for profit" and "Gardening for pleasure." The women were supplied with Mrs. Rorer's cook-book and Miss Corson's "Twenty-five cent dinners for a family of six" and "The practical butter book." For other readers who, like Lydia Blood, "want to know," were chosen the lives of distinguished men, a goodly proportion of history, travel, and science—astronomy, botany, geology, and electricity being represented under the last-named subject.

For the refreshment of dull, monotonous lives the world of fiction, with new allurements, was opened to these isolated people. The children were not so well supplied that first year, much being hoped for them from the Sunday-school library, which had heretofore had but a limited circulation. When, however, it was discovered that the children were the most faithful readers the second addition comprised a large number of books for the young.

Much of the so-called "juvenile" literature is not without interest to older heads. Surely, Louisa Alcott, Mrs. Burnett, Charles Kingsley, Lewis Carroll, and Kate Douglas Wiggin write between the lines of a child's story, making it equally charming to the elders. I am inclined to the opinion that the percentage of fiction in such a library should always be a very high one, and that it should be of the light and entertaining sort, such as will bring to these unemotional people an atmosphere at

once stimulating and harmless. Unfortunately, a few books of the depressing realistic school are already on our shelves. In nearly every case they were gifts not to be scorned, we thought, at the time when they were received. It may seem best this year to pass on to a more robust district "The heavenly twins," "Tess of the d'Urbervilles," and "The Manxman," and hereafter to be more cautious in accepting well-meaning but unsuitable donations.

Some of my friends ask, "What evidence have you that this library is appreciated, that it is wanted at all?" "Do the natives read?" I am able to answer that they do read, the men and the women, and, what is more encouraging, the children, who are acquiring now a habit that the parents are less likely to drop into easily, for we know that "he who loves not books before he come to 30 years of age will hardly love them enough afterwards to understand them."

The excellent system of the state by which the standard of our public libraries has been gradually raised is perhaps nowhere better illustrated than in these little country districts. The women asked, at first, for Mrs. Southworth's "works," for Augusta Evans and Laura Jean Libbey, and they still demand E. P. Roe; but they are content to "try" Mrs. Ewing, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Mrs. Barr, Mary Wilkins, and Richard Harding Davis, and the children instead of depending on the paper-covered literature, left to their mothers by the season's transient guest, take pride in their own shelves in the library, and seldom ask for anything but the books chosen for their especial benefit.

There are indeed some of the older men who, I fancy, have "never fed on the dainties bred in a book," the newspaper furnishing all the mental pabulum they can bear. Their influence is feeble and is not likely to discourage those who have tasted these dainties and found them good. One of these men who pays a school tax, though he has no children, gave utterance one day to the wish that "the devisers of the free-school system had been burned at the stake!" He has never been able to understand how we could find any profit or pleasure in reading the life of a man who lived 400 years ago.

The privileges of this library are offered to the transient summer guest on the same terms as to the district dweller. It has seemed best

to exact no fees from the non-resident reader, for the interest of this large class must always be a not inconsiderable factor in the maintenance of the library. The library is given up almost entirely to these during the summer, this being the busy season for the native in the fields and on the lake. Many of these summer residents come two miles and more, regularly once a week, to make exchange of books. It is made easy for the hotel guests, a mile away, to return their books oftener, if they please, and the steamer captain willingly delivers packages to the cottages along his route.

Thus far the raising of the fund for carrying on this library has been an easy matter, though precarious in its nature. Two concerts at the hotel, and a fair and sale last summer have brought in all that has been needed to make the desired additions and to pay the current expenses. It is hoped that before long the district will realize that the library is theirs to maintain, and that they will vote to incur some expense each year as their share of the obligation which has been voluntarily assumed by its originators.

Though not a resident of the district, except for a short period of the year, I was made one of the original five trustees, and my associates have shown such confidence in me that I am permitted to select the new books and am allowed to care for the funds as assistant treasurer.

The interest shown by the people in a talk given to them last September by our library inspector, on "How to enjoy the library," suggested to me that a course of lectures of an educational character might draw attention to the value of many of the books on our shelves. Five speakers, all well known to the residents and frequenters of the Glen, have been secured for a course in American history, and this series of subjects is promised us during the months of July and August:

1. Washington and the revolution.
2. The women of the revolution.
3. Abraham Lincoln and the civil war.
4. "My prison escape."
5. The history of the Democratic and Republican parties.

If we are as rich in September as this very attractive program should make us, there are plans for expansion and internal improvement that may not yet be divulged.

"America," said Emerson, "is another name for opportunity." Is it not strange that a

country, whose greatness lies still in the future, should, until recently, have had no holidays save those which look to the past? But a change has begun. Arbor day, as Secretary Morton has pointed out, looks not back to the history of our nation, but forward to that beautiful development which is the justification of our history.

May we not hope, then, that Arbor day is a prophecy of Library day? that the time may come when one day out of the year may be set apart to the humanities, to the establishment of new libraries throughout the country, to the improvement of old libraries by gifts and endowments, and to a general appreciation of what books may do to ameliorate the hardships of life?*

THE NEW PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

IN its site this library is peculiarly fortunate. It consists of five lots in all, not all purchased at one time, but, as it now stands, comprising a quadrilateral though not equilateral figure, the longest side of which has a length of 201 ft. Foremost of all the requirements to be subserved in the site is that of protection against fire. This is admirably secured here, not merely by the size of the entire site, but by the fact that there are streets on three sides, and that no one of the structures in the neighborhood is such as to menace the safety of a building, as stables, sheds, etc. For the reasons just cited, plenty of outside light will also be insured, from all sides, and the fresh circulation of air. Neither from any buildings in the neighborhood, nor from the respective streets, nor from the nature of the teaming or driving over them, are there likely to be annoyance from noise or dust which cannot be guarded against in the distribution of the rooms most requiring protection; and yet, in the readjustment of lines of communication now in process, the library site will inevitably become more accessible, rather than less so. Lastly, as a guarantee of the future "character" of the neighborhood, it is of interest to notice that on one opposite corner is a church not likely to be soon disused, while on another is a substantially built brick mansion, recently refitted and enlarged at a considerable expense as a private school for girls.

In the occupation of a site like this with the successive stack extensions, two considerations are of especial prominence — maximum capacity and maximum accessibility. So far as the former is concerned, the library's future is well provided for, and a total of at least 750,000 volumes can be shelved upon it, while there

* Library day has been for some years an institution in Nebraska, where it is especially intended as a means of increasing and developing school libraries. It has been suggested for Missouri and other states.

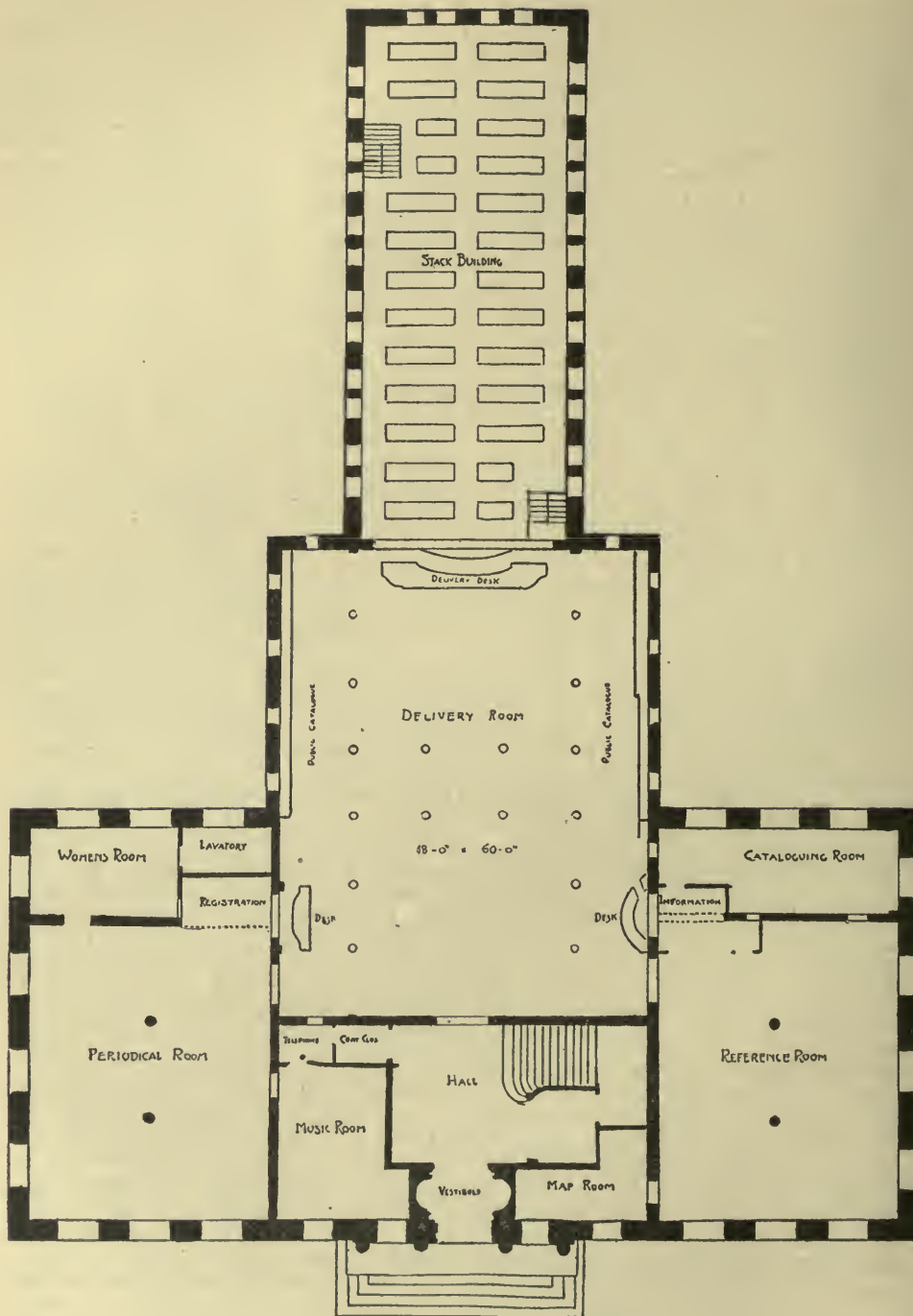
still remains more land in the same block to be acquired if desired. So far as the ideal placing of the stack sections is concerned, in order to secure the maximum of accessibility, the pressure of limited funds under which the library has always labored has unfortunately made it necessary to choose the less desirable of two methods of starting the original stack section. A glance at the floor plans here reproduced will show that if this stack section, instead of running at right angles to the administration building, had been "laid parallel" with it (as in the new Milwaukee Public Library Building), and with light provided by skylights above, the large number of books at first immediately accessible on only a very few stack floors, would postpone to a comparatively late day the necessity for additional stack sections. This "parallel" arrangement was reluctantly abandoned in the case of the Providence building, since its effect would have been to prevent the retention of that one of the five houses standing on the site from which the library is expecting to derive an income until its space is required. There has, however, been an attempt to utilize other "space- and time-saving" principles in connection with the stack. One of these would be adequately shown only by a section drawing, but by comparing the two floor plans with each other it will be seen that the first story projects its delivery-room floor considerably beyond the rear line of the administration building as shown in the second story plan. As a result of this "tongue," or "mortise and tenon" arrangement, the delivery-desk not merely has its stack floors immediately beyond it, but also immediately above it and immediately below it. Add to this the fact that as the level of the delivery-room floor is not coincident with that of any stack floor, but is midway between two, the delivery-desk has two stack floors tributary to it instead of one, and that, consequently, a messenger on either one of them can hand a book to it without resort to any staircase, and it will be seen that accessibility has been aimed at wherever possible.

So far as the distribution of rooms in the administration building is concerned, three several plans have been under consideration at different times, and the floor plans here shown represent that one of them which has been approved as the building which would be erected at present, if the funds permitted. Some of the results aimed at in this plan may here be briefly noted, under the two main divisions of routine operations and the more special uses. From the point of view of the visitor who enters a bank merely to cash a check and go immediately out, the aim has been to secure as thoroughfares, wherever possible, straight lines, as the shortest distance from one point to another, and to have these lines converge or radiate in reference to certain natural "centres." In this respect the delivery-room may be said to dominate the arrangement of all other rooms on the ground floor. To this room there is a straight course for the reader approaching it from the street; and in the extent to which it is at once a thoroughfare and

a point of departure it may well be compared to the "lobby" of a hotel.

It is undeniable, however, that in the planning of this building those considerations which have appealed most strenuously to the interest of the library managers have been connected with the increasing use of the library for reference purposes or for extended studies. Some of these results are obtained by differentiation. Thus, in the new plan (to consider only the reading-rooms) there will be a periodical-room, a women's reading-room, a reference-room, and a children's reading-room, while in the present quarters one room has been forced to serve all these different uses. Not only has the reference-room the various dictionaries, cyclopædias, etc., arranged around it on open shelves, but the entire room is dedicated to studious uses. From considerations of greater quiet also, a separate map-room is provided, since the rustling of maps when handled is sometimes an annoyance to other readers; and also a dictating-room, where the student can read aloud to his amanuensis or copyist without disturbing others.

The second story, however, may be said to be given up almost wholly to "special" uses, together with a contiguous portion of the stack building, which motives of economy have caused to be temporarily included with it. In the patent-room, for instance, will be brought together not only all the American and foreign patent reports, specifications, etc., but all of the library's industrial works in general, with draughting tables, dark room, and every other equipment for most effective use. In close proximity is the art-room, the most of whose treasures, being folio or quarto volumes of plates, require very special provision in the way of shelving, cases, tables, etc. Again, the library stands in the closest possible relations with all that in any way bears upon education. It requires no argument to show how far-reaching will be the value of an arrangement which provides (1) for the depositing within the walls of the library of a collection of educational literature of unique value; (2) for the frequent and regular visits of teachers to the library to make use of it; (3) for the establishment of the "children's reading-room" so closely adjoining to this "educational department" as to insure at all times an intelligent knowledge and interest on the part of the teachers as regards the use which their pupils are making of the library; (4) a class-room immediately adjoining the children's reading-room, which will at all times be available for use by the children with their teacher (the room itself and all the books on the specific subject in question being given up to them for an hour at a time or longer); (5) a series of similar class-rooms (in case of more than one being in demand at the same time), the folding partitions of which permit of their being merged in one large lecture-room, when needed by a large body of students, a study club, etc.; and (6) to insure isolation as well as quiet for the individual student or reader, a number of special study-rooms in different portions of the build-



PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Floor plan of first floor.



PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Floor plan of second floor.

ing, as well as the provision of study-tables in various portions of the stack itself

One other principle for which this plan stands lies very near the hearts of the managers of the library, and is provided for in the room marked "Standard library," on the second story plan. As this idea has already been unfolded, in some detail, in the columns of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, both by Mr. Koopman and the present writer it is necessary only to say that there will here be an opportunity of bringing the reader in contact with shelves to which one may point and say: "Here are the best works by the best authors in the world's literature, each in the edition which presents him at his best, and in every way most perfectly equipped."

In the working out of the details of this plan, both mechanical and architectural, the library managers have had at every point the most intelligent and sympathetic co-operation of the architects, Messrs Stone, Carpenter & Willson, of Providence. Mr. Stone, of this firm, is an architect of national reputation, and has been for several years past the secretary of the American Institute of Architects. Architecturally, the building is a dignified structure, of simple rather than complicated lines, and based principally on the Italian Renaissance of the 16th century. While possessing its own individuality, the building is one which at once proclaims itself as a library building, rather than a court-house, a school, or a hotel.

Were it possible to erect this building, as a whole, immediately, the library might well be most heartily congratulated. The expenditure of the entire sum represented by its cost—upwards of \$200,000—would, however, so far exhaust the library's principal as to imperil its annual income on which it depends for increase and maintenance; and it has consequently been necessary to provide for the erection of an incomplete structure—making temporary provision for some of the most important of the uses—with the expectation that a larger income at some time in the future will permit of its completion as originally planned. Some conception of the partial and inadequate treatment thus rendered necessary may be had from the second one of the views shown elsewhere. Naturally the incomplete structure lacks some of the most signal of the merits of the complete design. Several of the most essential rooms are wholly isolated from the delivery-room, with the whole length of the stack intervening. Among other unfortunate results are the separation of the cataloging-room from the card catalog; of the cataloging-room from the reference-room; of the reference-room from the map-room, and of the reference-room from the information-desk—the last named being a most unfortunate and incongruous result, in a building whose complete design may truthfully be said to start from the information-desk and the special nature of the work done there as one of its centres. In view of the extent to which the library administration of the future is everywhere tending towards open shelves, it is an occasion for the deepest regret that,

while in the complete design there were 15 rooms open to the public, and equipped in every instance with open shelves (more than one-third of the books being thus accessible on open shelves), in the temporary plan only about one-half this number of rooms will be open to the public. That the defects and incongruities of this temporary plan are not greater than they are is largely due to the extraordinary skill and assiduity of the architects, who have, by their prolonged examination of the problem during the past few months, eliminated one difficulty after another; and yet, after all has been done that can be done, this temporary plan will present so unfortunate a set of features, from the point of view of its practical workings—to say nothing of its extraordinary architectural effect—as to leave the trustees no option but to make an appeal to the community for such financial aid as will enable them to complete the building as it should be built.

Such an appeal has now been issued, and it remains to be seen whether it will succeed in its purpose.

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

CHILDREN AND THE LIBRARY.

From Report of Examining Committee, Boston Public Library Report, 1895.

THE children's room should be the most important place in the city for the training of those readers without whom the library is a mere ornament, or at best a convenience for scholars, instead of the nursery of good citizenship which it was meant to be. In the opinion of your committee, no time should be lost in filling the shelves of this room with books, and in providing the most adequate guidance for their use. Advantage should be taken of the newly awakened interest in the library building which is now bringing many children to it from curiosity, and they should be lured by every legitimate device to stay there for reading. All the books which the room can hold are not too many to put within reach of the children's hands. The most helpful and inspiring attendant in the library is none too valuable to find her post in this room. In every way known to modern educators the room should be made attractive. Large maps, a fine modern globe, and some good pictures, especially those of great Americans like Jefferson and Lincoln, ought to be found in the children's room. The juvenile magazines should also be accessible there, and there should be several copies of the better ones. The placards which mark the room as belonging to "The young," a phrase objectionable to many children, should come down, and in their place should be posted carefully prepared lists of books accessible on the various subjects. If an occasional talk about books could be given by some competent person to the children who should chance to gather in the room on a given Saturday afternoon, still further results might be accomplished. No one who goes to this room with an intelligent observation can fail to be convinced that within its walls there remains for solution the most important problem concerning the relation of the library to the life of the city.

THE DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION
ABROAD.

THE Dewey decimal classification has during the present year been the subject of much discussion and argument in France and Germany, the result of its recommendation as an international system of classification, made at the International Library Congress held last year in Brussels. Many leading French and German specialists oppose the system on the ground that any mechanical scheme of classification of sciences that are constantly changing and developing cannot be maintained. Among these are M. Leopold Delisle, Prof. F. Brentano, Dr. Hartwig, of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, and M. L. Polain, who concludes an article in the *Revue des Bibliothèques* on "Le système décimal en bibliographie et les publications de l'Office International de Bibliographie" with these words: "As for the decimal classification, it is to be shunned. Its complication and want of logic are contrary to the spirit of bibliography and to the sound working of libraries." A lively argument on the respective merits of the decimal and dictionary systems of classification has also been conducted in the *Mémorial de la Librairie Française* (Jan. 23, Jan. 30, March 19) between M. P. Otlet, one of the directors of the Office International de Bibliographie, and M. P. Deniker, librarian of the Museum d'Histoire Naturelle. The latter advocates the dictionary system as far superior in elasticity, utility, and ease of consultation, and the controversy is an interesting exposition of the advantages and disadvantages of both systems.

M. Charles Richert, editor of the *Revue Scientifique*, has recently taken up the cudgels for the system of decimal classification associated with Mr. Dewey's name. The following summary of his paper,* read at the meeting of the French Association for the Advancement of Science, gives his leading arguments: "There is," says M. Richert, "a system of decimals which is a part of the instruction given in primary schools. There is also a system of bibliography, which some consider a dull science, a mere repetition of what is already known without bringing any increase to knowledge or learning. Bibliography, however, is by no means a useless science, nor is it to be neglected. A book is almost more than a human being; it is all human thought. It is an error to say that bibliography and erudition kill science, although there was a time when there was justice in this astonishing assertion. It is certain that bibliography has created nothing, has invented nothing; but it has furnished us the means of knowing what has been done before us, and thus it has saved us from doubt and from error. One has the right not to be a great inventor, not to make grand discoveries, but one has no right to be ignorant of what has been said or written before him. That, however, is an easy thing to say. Those works are already innumerable, and their number is in-

creasing daily. There are 30,000 journals in the world, 4000 published in France, 13,000 in America. There are 565 medical societies, and at least 6000 scientific societies in the world. All these publish more or less of their proceedings, containing from 10 to 500 memoirs a year. In other words, the memoirs, etc., published annually in periodical journals reach the vast number of 600,000, and all this is outside of the ever-increasing number of books. Who would boast of being able to understand, of being able to handle all this vast literature without a key or without a system? In Billings's Index Catalogue the names of 350 Smiths are given, each of whom have published something on medicine. Up to August, 1890, Koch's tuberculin was entirely unknown. Two years later the number of published papers on tuberculin was not less than 596. Therefore it is necessary that we should have a system, a key that will make available at once all the vast literature that already exists and that is constantly accumulating.

"Two systems of classification are in use to answer the requirements of the student: the alphabetical and the analytical. The first is admirable, indispensable, but insufficient. Analytical classifications, have, however, the great defect of being *special*. There is no uniformity and the system in each library is different, subject to change with the changing of the person who has the library in charge."

"But there is analytical classification that is systematic, general, and universal, in which the differences of individuality, of personality, disappear in such a way as to permit its use throughout the world, making it a kind of ideological language. This system is the decimal classification conceived by Mr. Melvil Dewey."

M. Richert then devotes considerable space to an explanation of Mr. Dewey's classification and to the consideration of the various objections raised against it. "The decimal classification is, in effect, a classification or language of ideas, not of words; and as a language of ideas it may be easily used by the whole world. The names used in the classifications of botany and zoölogy are always Latin, a language universal for these two sciences. We propose to establish another language, if not superior to the Latin, at least more general, because the Arabic figures are in reality a language."

"The decimal system of numbers has been a great benefit; the same is true of this analytical classification. It is a grand effort toward unity which ought to be encouraged; because, whenever men act in concert, instead of dividing, they are able the more easily to join in the fight against the common enemy, which is ignorance."

In a second paper on the subject* M. Richert takes up the use of the decimal classification as an international system of classification. "A classification to be international must be in a language that is international, namely, the

* Richert, C: La methode en bibliographie et la classification décimale. (*In Revue Scientifique*, April 11, 1896, p. 449-457.)

* Richert, C: La bibliographie décimale et le Congrès de la Société Royal de Londres. (*In Review Scientifique*, July 11, 1896, p. 49-51.)

Arabic system of numbers. A system based on any one language will not do; for each language may have a different word for the same idea. *Wärme*, *heat*, and *chaleur* all stand for the same idea; and it becomes apparent at once that no international scheme can be adopted where alphabetical order is a vital part of the plan. Mr. Dewey's system should be adopted without change. It is not a theoretical plan; it has stood the test of experience in many libraries, and this cannot be said of any other plan."

Another writer on the subject is M. Marcel Baudouin,* who desires to introduce professional bibliographers to the applications which he has made, at the Institut International de Bibliographie Scientifique de Paris, of the decimal classification in the domain of medical science, and to submit the ruling ideas which guided him in establishing new subdivisions which he created for medicine, with the approval of the Office International de Bibliographie. He has already classified more than a million *fiches* (monographs) of a scientific character, solely by the aid of Mr. Dewey's scheme, and his subdivisions have been necessarily confined within certain fixed limits. He is convinced, however, that certain ideas and practices, which he has been obliged to adopt by force of circumstances, will be of great benefit to *littérateurs* and to *savants*.

Where Mr. Dewey writes 614.882, M. Baudouin writes 614.88.2; and instead of 617.5582, he writes 617.558.2. These extra points are put in to assist the eye in showing the relative importance of the different divisions. He also devotes considerable attention to the explanation of his method of indicating complex ideas by means of combining the different index numbers into one. The major part of the paper is taken up with the new subdivisions he has made for medicine.

An English contribution on the subject of an international decimal classification has been made by William E. Hoyle,† *apropos* of the recent meeting of the international conference on scientific bibliography, under the auspices of the Royal Society, in London. The question is, he says, "What system of numerical indexing shall be adopted for an international catalog of science?" and he answers it by urging the adoption of the Dewey decimal system. "My own experience, extending over the past five years, enables me to speak of it [the decimal system] with great confidence as a thoroughly practical scheme, though, I confess, on first acquaintance, I regarded it with considerable suspicion, and I have never met any one, who had given it a fair trial, that was not deeply impressed with its many valuable qualities." The international catalog committee of the Royal Society has elaborated a

scheme of decimal classification as a rival of the Dewey system, of which Mr. Hoyle says: "It is crude, incomplete, and inconsistent, largely because it is the result, not of practical experience, but of *à priori* consideration."

In this connection it may be interesting to note that all the leading articles in *Natural Science* are given the Dewey class number and at least 14 other journals follow the same practice.

THE INTERNATIONAL CATALOG CONFERENCE.

THE International Conference organized by the Royal Society to consider the preparation and publication of an international catalog of scientific literature was opened on Tuesday, July 14, at Burlington House, London. The 42 delegates, representing nearly all the governments of civilized countries and most of the leading scientific societies of the world, were welcomed by Sir John Gorst, as provisional president. Prof. Armstrong gave a brief account of the work done by the Royal Society in arranging for the conference, as well as of the work to be accomplished. It was decided that English, German, and French should be the official languages of the conference.

On Monday the delegates were received by the president and council of the Royal Society, and on Tuesday evening a banquet was tendered them at the Hotel Metropole. Among the speakers was Dr. J. S. Billings, superintendent of the New York Public Library, who proposed "Success to the conference and the catalog" in a humorous speech. He said that he suspected that classification began in the Ark. Science was now getting so large and various that the projected summary would be of extreme value; but he did not quite know to what it would lead. If their object in carrying out this catalog were achieved, they might anticipate a time when men and things and thoughts, also, would be cataloged. They might look forward down the vista of years to the time when a stranger in Hyde Park would see a passer-by with such a number as 26.053, and would then at once appreciate his status in every respect, and when the novelist would proudly show that his heroine had 26 points in her character, while a rival writer had only achieved 19.

The conference closed on Friday, July 17, the need of an international catalog having been fully recognized, and a plan for its preparation mapped out. It was decided "That it is desirable to compile and publish by means of some international organization a complete catalog of scientific literature, arranged according both to subject-matter and to authors' names. That in preparing such a catalog regard shall, in the first instance, be had to the requirements of scientific investigators, to the end that these may, by means of the catalog, find out most easily what has been published concerning any particular subject of inquiry."

The preparation of the catalog is to be in charge of an international council, to be ap-

* Baudouin, Marcel. Classification décimale et les sciences médicales. (*In Review Scientifique*, May 30, 1896, p. 681-686.)

† Hoyle, W. E. The Dewey decimal classification and the international catalog of science. (*In Natural Science*, July, 1896, 9: 43-52.)

pointed, and the final editing and publication shall be conducted by a central international bureau, under the direction of the international council. Any country that is willing to do so shall be entrusted with the task of collecting, provisionally classifying, and transmitting to the central bureau, in accordance with rules laid down by the international council, all the entries belonging to the scientific literature of that country. "In indexing according to subject-matter regard shall be had, not only to the title (of a paper or book), but also to the nature of the contents."

The catalog shall comprise all published original contributions—periodical articles, pamphlets, memoirs, etc.—to the mathematical, physical, or natural sciences, "such as, for example, mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, mineralogy, geology, botany, mathematical and physical geography, zoölogy, anatomy, physiology, general and experimental pathology, experimental psychology and anthropology, to the exclusion of what are sometimes called the applied sciences—the limits of the several sciences to be determined hereafter."

The system of collecting and preparing material for the catalog in each country shall be subject to the approval of the international council.

"The central bureau shall issue the catalog in the form of 'slips' or 'cards,' the details of the cards to be hereafter determined, and the issue to take place as promptly as possible. Cards corresponding to any one or more branches of science, or to sections of such sciences, shall be supplied separately at the discretion and under the direction of the central bureau. The central bureau shall also issue the catalog in book form from time to time, the entries being classified according to the rules to be hereafter determined. The issue in the book form shall be in parts corresponding to the several branches of science, the several parts being supplied separately, at the discretion and under the direction of the central bureau."

It was also decided that the central bureau shall be located in London, and that the Royal Society appoint a committee to study all undecided questions relating to the catalog and to report later. As it was thought that the necessary guarantee fund could be raised by private subscription, it was decided that no appeal to the governments of the several countries represented was necessary.

As to the catalog itself, English was accepted as the language of both the card and the book catalogs, "authors' names and titles being given only in the original languages, except when these belong to a category to be determined by the international council."

No system of classification was adopted and the subject was turned over for consideration to the committee of organization, which should also suggest "such details as will render the catalog of the greatest possible use to those unfamiliar with English." January 1, 1900, is fixed as the date for the beginning of the catalog.

American Library Association.

President: J. C. Dana, Public Library, Denver, Col.

Secretary: H: L. Elmendorf, Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Acting Treasurer: E. H. Anderson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, Pa.

18th Conference, Cleveland, O., Sept. 1-4, 1896.

FINAL PROGRAM.

TUESDAY, September 1. — *Afternoon* — Inspection of Cleveland libraries. Meeting of Executive Board.

8 p.m. *First Session.* — Hollenden hotel — Informal session preparatory to the work of the conference. Library appliances and souvenirs of previous meetings will be exhibited.

WEDNESDAY, September 2, 9 a.m. — *Second Session.* President's address, John Cotton Dana, librarian Public Library, Denver, Colo.

Paper — Retrospect and prospect in the closing years of the century, J. N. Larned, supt. Buffalo Library, Buffalo, N. Y.

Address — The new Congressional library building, Bernard Green, Washington, D. C.

Address — Public documents and the proposed new public document bill, F. A. Crandall, Supt. of Public Documents, Washington, D. C.

Paper — Expert annotation of books, George Iles, Montreal, Canada.

2.30 p.m. — *Third Session.* — Reports.

Executive board: Meetings; Proposed European trip; Library primer.

Treasurer: Report; Necrology.

Standing committees.

Sections.

Gifts and bequests — Miss C. M. Hewins, librarian Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

Congress of women librarians at Atlanta — Miss Alice B. Kroeger, librarian Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, Pa.

Travelling libraries — John Thomson, librarian Free Library, Philadelphia, Pa.

Evening — Reception by the Rowfant Club.

THURSDAY, September 3, 9 a.m. — *Fourth Session.* — Paper — Exhibitions of engravings and pictures, C. A. Cutter, librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.; and S: S. Green, librarian Public Library, Worcester, Mass.

Paper — Advertising a library, Miss L. E. Stearns, supt. circulating department Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.

Paper — Library editions of popular fiction, C. R. Dudley, librarian City Library, Denver, Colo.

10:30 — Joint meeting of the A. L. A. and the Trustees Section. Mr. C: C. Soule, president of the Trustees Section, will preside. Many prominent library trustees have promised to be present. Mr. F: M. Crunden, librarian St. Louis Public (Free)

Library, will address the meeting on behalf of librarians.

Afternoon. Fifth Session.—Cleveland afternoon, in charge of the local committee. Visit to the Woodland Branch and the Miles Park Branch of the Cleveland Public Library.

8 p.m.—*Sixth Session.*—Report of the committee on the A. L. A. catalog supplement, Miss Mary S. Cutler, vice-director, New York State Library School, chairman. Discussion of a selected list of books.

FRIDAY, September 4, 9 a.m.—*Seventh Session.* Paper—Relation of the bookseller to the librarian, Almon Burch, of the library department of A. C. McClurg & Co.

Paper—"Do's," Miss Ellen M. Chandler, Buffalo (N. Y.) Library.

From 10 to 12:30 will be devoted especially to matters of interest to young and inexperienced librarians. Those to whom subjects have been assigned will endeavor to answer all questions asked them.

Library furniture, fixtures, and appliances—C. A. Cutter, librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

Old and new books; what to buy—Miss Caroline M. Hewins, librarian Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

Reading-room and periodicals—Miss Hannah P. James, librarian Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Accessioning, classifying, and cataloging—W. I. Fletcher, librarian Amherst College, Amherst, Mass.

Preparing books for issue, and charging systems—Frank P. Hill, librarian Public Library, Newark, N. J.

Reference books and reference work—S. S. Green, librarian Public Library, Worcester, Mass.

The librarian's annual report—Miss Caroline H. Garland, librarian Public Library, Dover, N. H.

2:30 p.m.—*Eighth Session*—Election of officers; reports of special committees; meetings of sections and state associations.

8:30 p.m.—Annual A. L. A. dinner—Hollenden hotel. Judge Hutchins, president of the board of trustees of the Cleveland Public Library, will preside.

POST CONFERENCE.

At midnight Friday the party will leave by steamer for Detroit, and will be guests of the Detroit Public Library after breakfast Saturday morning. Carriages will leave the library promptly at 11 a.m. After a drive over the city, lunch will be served in the pavilion at Belle Isle park. The Star line boat will leave the park dock at 3 p.m., and take the party through St. Clair Flats to Grande Pointe clubhouse, where they have been invited to dine with the club. Music and entertainment during the evening until the arrival of the steamer *City of Mackinaw* about midnight. Arrive in Mackinaw 6:30 a.m. Monday, September 7. Breakfast at the Grand hotel.

TUESDAY, September 8, 8 p.m.—*Ninth and Final Session.*—Paper—The story of Mackinaw, Reuben Gold Thwaites, secretary Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

NOTES.

Cleveland—All sessions, except the first informal session, will be held in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Hollenden hotel has been selected as headquarters. Rates \$3 per day. Mr. W. H. Brett, librarian of the public library and chairman of the local committee, Cleveland, will reserve rooms at this hotel or elsewhere, if notified. Good hotel accommodations can be had convenient to place of meeting at \$2 per day and upwards. Good boarding-houses at \$1 per day and upwards.

Transportation—A rate of one and a third fare for the round trip has been made by all roads, on the certificate plan. Persons attending the conference will pay full fare going and take from the ticket agent a certificate, which, when signed by the secretary and joint agent of the railroads at the meeting, will entitle the holder to return for one-third regular fare.

Certificates should be deposited with the secretary of the A. L. A. as soon after arrival in Cleveland as possible. The railroad agent will be present one day only, September 3. The certificates will be good for return over same route only, and will be accepted in Cleveland up to and including September 15.

If local agent is not provided with certificates buy a ticket to the next town that has them. Local agent will give this information.

The one and a third fare rates also apply on steamboat lines and by lake and rail routes.

Post Conference.—Cleveland to Detroit, one way \$2; round trip \$3. Berths, upper \$1; lower (accommodating two persons if desired) \$1.50 each way.

Cleveland to Mackinaw, one way \$8, berths and meals included. Round trip \$13, berths and meals included. These prices do not, however, include breakfast at Detroit, which will be at individual expense. Breakfast can be had on the boat for 50c., at the Hotel Normandie 50c., Russell House 75c., Cadillac 75c.

The Star line boat charges 50c. for round trip, Detroit to Grande Pointe and return. Those desiring to go no further can be accommodated at the club-house for \$1.50 per day, returning next morning or staying as long as they choose.

The Grand hotel at Mackinaw, which has been selected as quarters for the party, is considered one of the best summer hotels in the country. Special rates of \$2.50 per day have been made for the A. L. A., although the regular charge is \$4 to \$5. The casino will be used for meetings and social gatherings. The hotel has an excellent orchestra.

General—The fare to Chicago from Mackinaw by boat is \$6, meals extra—75c. for breakfast and supper and \$1 for dinner. Berths extra, upper \$1 to \$1.50, lower \$1.50 to \$2. Buffalo to Cleveland by boat, one way \$3; berths \$1 to \$1.50 extra. Mackinaw Island

to Duluth, one way \$10.50; round trip \$18.50—transportation only. Berth rates vary. Meals *à la carte*.

Mackinaw Island to Saulte Ste. Marie, one way \$3.50; round trip \$5.50—transportation only. Steamers leave daily.

Twice daily steamers leave Mackinaw for Les Cheneaux Islands, famous fishing grounds.

Members going via Boston should write Mr. F. R. Fletcher, Library Bureau, 146 Franklin st., Boston, Mass. Members going via New York should write Mr. C. Alex. Nelson, Columbia College Library, New York City. Members going via Philadelphia should write Mr. T. L. Montgomery, Wagner Institute, Philadelphia, Pa. Members going via Chicago should write Mr. G. B. Meleney, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin st., Chicago, Ill.

J: C. DANA, *Pres't*,
H: L. ELMENDORF, *Sec'y*,
Program Committee.

NOTES FROM THE LOCAL COMMITTEE.

THE arrangements for the Cleveland meeting are in the hands of an efficient local committee. The responses received by the secretary of the association and by the chairman of the local committee indicate that the attendance will be a large one.

The Post Conference trip, including as it does a day in Detroit, an evening at the Grande Pointe Club-house on St. Clair flats, and Monday to Wednesday at Mackinaw, will, if the weather is favorable, be a delight to all who participate in it.

Grace Denio Litchfield's "Little Venice" and some of Constance Fenimore Woolson's stories may prove interesting to those who intend to go on this trip.

A circular of information has been issued by the local committee. A pamphlet containing the program, and some additional information in regard to Cleveland, will be mailed before the 15th. If this should fail to reach any one interested, a copy will be sent on application to W. H. Brett, Cleveland.

The local committee extends a cordial invitation to all interested in our libraries as trustees or library workers or as friends to the cause to come to this meeting.

TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS.

THE following circular has been issued as to railroad route, rates, etc., for eastern librarians:

The New York Central and Hudson River Railroad has been selected as the official route from New York and New England, and arrangements have been perfected for the running of a special train, consisting of Wagner vestibule sleeping-cars.

Departure will be made from Grand Central Station, 42d street and 4th avenue, 7:30 p.m., August 31, stopping a few minutes at Poughkeepsie, continuing along the shores of the Hudson to Albany; and from Boston at 3:00 p.m., over the Boston & Albany R. R., the route then lying along the beautiful valleys

of the Mohawk and Genesee; all of which can be enjoyed by a daylight ride on the return trip, if desired, arriving at Buffalo 7:30 a.m., where breakfast will be served in New York Central dining station.

The trip from Buffalo to Cleveland over the Lake Shore route will not be lacking in interest; the train passing through the cities of Dunkirk, Ashtabula, and Painesville, skirting the south shore of Lake Erie for a distance of 183 miles, and reaching Cleveland about noon.

Members who will be obliged to reach Buffalo over other roads, and who may wish to join the party there, should see that their tickets read over the Lake Shore road from Buffalo to Cleveland.

RETURNING.

On the return journey from Cleveland, tickets will be honored from Buffalo to Niagara Falls, where a stop-over of ten days' duration can be had by depositing tickets with the agent, during which time members can avail themselves of a side-trip to the beautiful city of Toronto; taking New York Central train of observation cars to Lewiston, a distance of seven miles along the Niagara Gorge, where connection is made with the Niagara Navigation Company's safe and palatial steamers for a sail across Lake Ontario.

Trains leave Niagara Falls nearly every hour. Connecting with steamer leaving Lewiston, 8:55 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:50 p.m., and 5:45 p.m. Returning, leave Toronto 7:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 4:45 p.m. Fare, Niagara Falls to Toronto and return, \$2.25.

COST.

The rate authorized is one and a third fare on the certificate plan; or full fare going, and on presentation of certificate to the agent of the Lake Shore railroad at Cleveland, before September 14 (obtained from agent at starting-point, when purchasing ticket), members will be furnished with tickets at one-third fare returning, providing the conditions named on certificate as to signatures, limitations, etc., have been complied with.

The rates shown below are the full one-way fares, to which one-third should be added to cover the return trip:

One-way fares to Cleveland C., from principal Stations on the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. R.:

FROM	
New York.....	\$13.00
Newburgh.....	12.25
Poughkeepsie.....	12.00
Hudson.....	11.75
Albany.....	11.15
Troy.....	11.15
Utica.....	9.04
Rome.....	8.76
Syracuse.....	7.98
Rochester.....	6.38
Batavia.....	5.70
Geneva.....	7.25
Schenectady.....	10.60

*From principal stations on the Boston &
Albany R. R.:*

Boston.....	\$15.00
Worcester.....	14.00
Springfield.....	13.00
So. Framingham.....	14.50
Westfield.....	13.00
North Adams.....	12.50
Pittsfield.....	12.32

Sleeping-car fares:

FROM	Berth.	State-Room.
New York to Cleveland.....	\$3.00	\$10.00
Albany " ".....	2.50	9.00
Utica " ".....	2.50	9.00
Boston " ".....	3.50	12.00
Springfield " ".....	3.00	10.00

Special sleeping-cars will be attached to the regular trains leaving New York and Boston, joining at Albany and running special from there providing the number is sufficiently large to warrant.

Careful estimates indicate that the total expense for the trip from points east of Buffalo will be from \$60 to \$75 according to the place of starting.

It is hoped that all who can arrange to do so will join the party from the east and enjoy the conference and the benefits always derived from mutual interchange of views and ideas with our fellow-members.

All members expecting to attend the conference, who have not already done so, are earnestly requested to send their names at once to one of the undersigned.

At least of New York and Albany, who will go over the B. & A. R. R., to Mr. F. R. Fletcher, and all who join the party at New York, Albany, Buffalo, or intermediate points to Mr. C. Alex. Nelson. It is important that this information should be received early, in order to provide the necessary sleeping-car accommodations.

C. ALEX. NELSON, *Recorder*,
Columbia University Library, New York City.

F. R. FLETCHER, *Ass't Sec'y*,
Library Bureau, Boston, Mass.

T. L. MONTGOMERY,
Free Library, Philadelphia.

A. L. A. BADGE.

ALL members of the A. L. A., and especially all expecting to attend the Cleveland conference, are urged to equip themselves with the A. L. A. badge, that it may become really the outward and visible sign of the library profession. The badge was adopted in 1894, and is in the form of a monogram, the letters A. L. A. entwined, in gold and blue enamel. It may be had either as a clasp or stick-pin, as desired, at a cost of \$2.50, and it is hoped that all members who are not already supplied will obtain their insignia before the conference. To do so, orders should be sent as promptly as possible to the assistant recorder, Miss Nina E. Browne, the Library Bureau, 146 Franklin st., Boston. Unless orders are sent in without delay it will be impossible to obtain the badge before September.

*CLEVELAND TO MACKINAW: HISTORICAL
DATA ON A. L. A. POST CONFERENCE.*

BY REUBEN GOLD THWAITES.

CLEVELAND.

New England librarians ought to feel at home in Cleveland, the capital of the New Connecticut of a century ago. It will be remembered that Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and Virginia claimed the country northwest of the Ohio river. At the time when liberal domains in America were given away to English trading companies and court favorites, geographical knowledge at the court of St. James did not descend to petty details. In general, the coast colonies were supposed to own everything west of them to the China Sea, quite regardless of the fact that colonial boundaries sadly overlapped. A pretty snarl there arose out of it all, although the same has been of more or less advantage to those western historians who have gained some professional distinction in unravelling it. When the Union was formed, all of the states interested in the Northwest gave up their individual claims, except Connecticut, which reserved 3,666,291 acres along Lake Erie, and Virginia, which reserved 3,709,848 acres between the Miami, Scioto, and Ohio rivers. Connecticut called this section her Western Reserve, a name perpetuated in the Western Reserve University and in the Western Reserve Historical Society, the excellent libraries of which the A. L. A. visitors to Cleveland will be expected to see. The name New Connecticut was, however, for several years popularly attached to the district.

The passage of the ordinance of 1787, establishing the territory northwest of the river Ohio, was thought by Connecticut to be in violation of her rights, as it included the Western Reserve in the territorial limits. The Nutmeg State proceeded to offer its lands for sale, despite the famous ordinance. The Connecticut Land Company was the outgrowth of this step. It was some years before anybody would purchase any of the tract, for the woods of northern Ohio were still full of Indians, and white men possessed the country only on paper. Finally, after the St. Clair and Harmar expeditions had been slaughtered, Mad Anthony Wayne met the savage enemy at Fallen Timbers (1794) and humbled him.

The treaty of Greenville (1795) cleared the path, and, in the early summer of 1796, the Connecticut Company sent out its pioneers to the Western Reserve. They numbered nine officers and surveyors, 37 employes (boatmen, axemen, and linemen), six care-takers, 13 horses, and some cattle, the whole under Gen. Moses Cleaveland. After many adventures they reached the mouth of Conneaut Creek, near the Pennsylvania border, July 4, 1796, and there, just within the border of New Connecticut, celebrated the 20th natal day of the Republic by "firing a Federal salute of 15 rounds, and then the 16th in honor of New Connecticut. We gave three cheers, and christened the place Port Independence," and then had a picnic dinner at which six toasts were drunk, and

"We closed with three cheers. Drank several pails of grog, supped, and retired in remarkable good order." Thus writes good old General Cleaveland in his diary. It is to be hoped that if any of the Connecticut members of the A. L. A. take a side-trip to celebrate the centennial of Port Independence they will be a trifle more sparing of the grog, for modern librarians are not so hardened as their forbears.

All of which merely goes to show why General Cleaveland was upon the ground at all. July 22, he visited the site of the city which was, with a slight variation in spelling, to bear his name—the capital of this Connecticut empire of the west—and began setting stakes. The mouth of Cuyahoga Creek, where Cleaveland was planted, had for many years been the scene of white men's exploits. It is supposed that Maj. Robert Rogers (of whom Parkman tells us in the "Conspiracy of Pontiac") here held a council with Pontiac, in October, 1760. Cleaveland antiquarians claim that Major Williams was wrecked off here, in November, 1763, while on his way to fight Pontiac; and that Colonel Bradstreet stopped at Cuyahoga, upon his expedition against the Ohio Indians. We know that in 1755 there was a French trading post on this river, and that after 1760, French and English traders fraternized upon its banks; indeed, it rivalled Sandusky as a trading centre in 1786, and there was a considerable forest traffic here until after the war of 1812–15. In 1785–87, a Moravian mission village, Pilger-ruh ("Pilgrim's Rest"), was situated a few miles up the river, at the mouth of Tinker Creek. The pathetic history of the Moravian missions of Ohio will be found outlined in Larned's "History for Ready Reference," vol. III., p. 2229.

The little Western Reserve hamlet on Cuyahoga Creek, whose centennial is to be celebrated by the presence of the A. L. A., was a plant of slow growth. It was inaccessible, in those olden days; Indian wars raged in the neighborhood; the fur trade of the district was not encouraging to settlement; and, altogether, it was not until the close of the war of 1812–15 that Cleaveland exhibited any reason for being. In 1810, 14 years after the coming of Moses to this Promised Land, there were but 57 people here, but in 1814 it was big enough to be incorporated as a village; in 1836, a city charter was obtained; in 1854, it absorbed its rival across the river, Ohio City, and became a municipality of 20,000. It now numbers about 375,000, with 2300 manufacturing establishments employing 50,000 people, with daily steamers to all the other important lake ports, five trunk lines of railway, and a great and growing commerce by land and water. It is a beautiful residence city as well; and Eastern librarians will find that its libraries and other educational institutions are well housed, liberally equipped, and competently administered.

EN ROUTE TO DETROIT.

The steamer which we shall take at Cleaveland, for Detroit, will be of the class advertised in the tourist circulars as "floating palaces."

Librarians from the seaboard, who are unfamiliar with the craft of our inland waters, will, at suitable intervals during the trip, kindly oblige western members by expressing delighted surprise. It is a far cry from this Cleaveland boat to old *Walk-in-the-Water*, the first steamer on Lake Erie, which made its initial voyage over our very route, arriving in Detroit August 28, 1818. *Walk-in-the-Water* was a powerful craft, built on Fulton's plan, and a source of great wonderment to the natives along Detroit river; for they had been told and fully believed that the "big canoe"—the "fire canoe," some of them picturesquely styled it—was, by order of the chief of the Long Knives (Americans), being drawn about through the rivers and lakes by a team of sturgeon.

It will be dark; and, as soon as we leave the breakwater, land-lubbers will express a desire to retire early. We need, therefore, make no mention of the points of interest between Cleaveland and Detroit—of Sandusky, a famous frontier stronghold in the Indian wars of the 18th century; of charming Put-in-Bay, where, September 10, 1813, Commodore Perry gained that immortal victory over the British, which he sententiously reported: "We have met the enemy, and they are ours;" of busy Toledo and Maumee Bay, long objects of territorial strife between Ohio and Michigan.

DETROIT.

The early history of Detroit is sufficiently romantic to hold the attention of the most casual reader. It can, in this place, be merely hinted at. La Salle was here in the spring of 1670, with the Sulpitian priests, Dollier and Galinée, vainly hoping by way of the Great Lakes to find a passage to the South Sea. Galinée's journal and map made known to the world the importance of Detroit as a strategic point. But the French court acted slowly in those days, and it was not until 1701 that the *Sieur de la Motte Cadillac* was permitted to erect upon the site of this modern city the little log stockade which he styled Fort Pontchartrain, in honor of the prime minister of France.

Thus Detroit was primarily a fort for the protection of the fur trade. Gradually, *habitants, voyageurs, engagés*, and discharged soldiers settled without its walls, retiring within them whenever danger from Indians threatened, as during the notable sieges in the Fox war and the Pontiac uprising. Strategically, Detroit was from the earliest times considered important, but the town itself grew slowly during fur-trade days; like most of our towns which had their roots in the French *régime*, its serious growth dates from the commencement of English occupation (1763). It was not until July 11, 1796, that the American flag was for the first time raised above its walls; it was pusillanimously surrendered to the English in 1812, by General Hull; the Americans retook it the following year. Eleven years later (1824), Detroit was incorporated as a city, and in 1890 its population was 205,876.

Detroit was the centre of French influence in

the northwest almost until our own time, and long retained many marked characteristics of those early days. Since the heavy western immigration of the 40's and 50's, a large part of which passed through this city, and the changes wrought by the influence of the war of secession, Detroit has gradually outgrown its picturesque Creole stage. The A. L. A. sociologist who would find evidences of the old *régime* must have keen eyes, and search in little-frequented quarters of the city. He will discover that the Germans are far more in evidence than the French Canadians.

Detroit, with its modern dress, splendid public library, a far-reaching commerce, and busy factories, is still a fortified post, as it was in the days of old Cadillac, nearly 200 years ago. Fort Wayne, just below the city, commands both it and the river; the batteries are incomplete, but are capable of being extended into one of the most important fortifications on our northern frontier; and a garrison of infantry makes apparent this importance.

LAKE ST. CLAIR.

On our way to Mackinaw we shall tarry awhile at Grosse Pointe, where Lake St. Clair begins to narrow into the straits (Fr. *détroit*). Off this point, in August, 1679, La Salle lay for several days becalmed in the *Griffin*, the first sailing vessel to plough the upper lakes. Every member of the A. L. A. is supposed to be up in Parkman, hence knows all about La Salle and the *Griffin*; I need only remind such that the great explorer was here at that time, to call up a flood of historical recollections. It is hardly necessary, perhaps, to remind librarians that Sainte Claire, from whom La Salle named this lake, was the founder of the "Poor Claires," Franciscan nuns of the 13th century. It is expected that the women librarians will be duly moved to grief when they learn that the feminine name conferred by La Salle has, by modern usage, been corrupted and masculinized into St. Clair.

Upon the 12th of August (St. Claire's Day), 1879, the second centennial of La Salle's christening of the lakes was observed with appropriate ceremonies at Grosse Pointe. The coming of the *Griffin* is historically important, because it was (said Bela Hubbard, in his address on that occasion) "the precursor of a long line of craft, of every size and character, which, passing through these waters, has swollen into a commerce that has become the wonder of the world."

LAKE HURON.

In the average New England town it is considered the correct thing to call the local librarian "a reg'lar walkin' cyclopædia." Such folk will, of course, know that the mean surface of Lake Huron is 582 feet above sea-level; that the streams which flow into it are mainly on the Canadian shore, out of sight of the A. L. A. excursionists; and that while averaging only 200 feet sounding, there are several "deep spots" in it, which may cause people like Mrs. Aleshine to feel uncanny while passing over.

Champlain, the first governor of New France, in the course of his adventurous wanderings reached the shores of Lake Huron (Georgian Bay) in 1615, and called it, on his map, *La Mer Douce* (The Fresh Sea). Champlain had reached Lake Huron by the famous fur-trade route of the Ottawa River. This involved a toilsome journey up the picturesque Ottawa, with its 100 waterfalls; the ascent of its tributary, the Mattawan, for 40 miles; carrying canoes and cargoes over a portage track to Lake Nipissing, thence descending French River to Georgian Bay. For nearly 100 years, this difficult and indirect route was, because of Iroquois opposition to French progress through the lower lakes, almost exclusively used by the French in journeying to the northwest. This is why Lake Huron was the first of the Great Lakes to be discovered by white men; Ontario, Superior, and Michigan being next unveiled, in the order named. Erie, the last to be seen by whites, was known as early as 1640; but, owing to Iroquois warriors blocking the way, was not navigated until 1669, except by unlicensed French traders (*coureurs de bois*) slyly seeking the English fur markets of Albany. Thus Frenchmen were familiar with the sites of Sault Ste. Marie, Mackinaw, Ashland, Green Bay, Prairie du Chien, and Chicago before they had visited the site of Detroit (1669).

We have seen that Champlain called this lake *La Mer Douce*; on another of Champlain's maps it figures as *Attigouantan*; Sanson's map (1657) calls it *Karegnondi*; the map in the Jesuit Relation for 1670-71 gives it as *Lac des Hurons* (the Huron tribe of Indians were clustered upon the eastern shores of Georgian Bay); Cornelli's map (1688) names it *Lac d'Orleans*; and in Colden it figures both as *Quatoghe* and *Caniatare*.

On and near the eastern shores of Georgian Bay, were the Huron villages first visited by the French monks of the Récollet order (1615). Later (1634), the Jesuits opened among these demi-demons their famous Huron mission, during the continuance of which Fathers Viel, Brébeuf, Daniel, Garnier, and Gabriel Lalemant yielded up their lives, most of them amid unspeakable tortures, as martyrs to the cause of Christ.

MACKINAC.

Beauteous Isle! I sing of thee,
Mackinac, my Mackinac;
Thy lake-bound shores I love to see,
Mackinac, my Mackinac.

The spelling of this island's name is as given by the poet; but the pronunciation is Mackinaw, and thus it is often written by historians. The old spelling, of the French and English fur-trade days, was Michillimackinack, the same being, according to Father Verwyst ("Wisconsin Historical Collections," vol. xii., p. 392), a corruption of the Chippewa word *Mishini Mikinak*, "big turtle," referring to the general contour of the island. Some of the local guide-books would have us believe that the word is *Mishinimakina* ("at the great hanging arch"), referring to Arch Rock, the greatest natural

curiosity on the island (Kelton's "Annals of Fort Mackinac"). The philologists of our party have their choice between the two.

It is always unsafe to say who was the original white explorer of any region, particularly in the old northwest. Historical statements of this character are quite apt to be overturned by later students, who discover traces of an earlier presence. Jean Nicolet, a *coursur de bois* sent out in 1634 by Champlain to discover and make commercial treaties with distant tribes, is supposed to have been the first white man to pass through the Straits of Mackinac; but I have no doubt that other adventurous *coursurs de bois*, travelling unofficially and secretly, were here before him, although we have no records of the fact. These unlicensed forest traders of New France roamed far and wide through the interior of our continent, generally far in advance of the missionaries and political agents of New France.

The first French settlement was not on the island, but on the north main-land opposite—Pointe St. Ignace. Here, Father Marquette, driven from his Lake Superior mission by the fury of the Sioux, spent the winter of 1670–71, and during 1671 erected "a rude and unshapely chapel, its sides of logs and its roof of bark." About this Jesuit mission gradually grew up a small settlement of fur-trade employees and *habitants*. From here Marquette started (1673) upon his famous journey, in Joliet's company to the upper waters of the Mississippi; and here, four years later, the weary bones of this exemplary soldier of the cross were laid to rest "in a little vault in the middle of the church."

Pointe St. Ignace—then known as Michillimackinac—was throughout the remainder of the 17th century the most important French military and trading post on the upper lakes. Every notable expedition to the northwest had perforce to stop here. But when Cadillac established Detroit (1701), the soldiers were withdrawn and the Indians enticed thither, leaving St. Ignace "sidetracked." The Jesuits maintained their mission at the Pointe until 1706, and then, burning their chapel and school, retired discomfited to Quebec. In 1712, Fort Michillimackinac was re-established by the French upon the *south* shore of the strait, just west of the present Mackinaw City; and for 67 years following this new settlement was known as Mackinac or Michillimackinac.

It should be remembered that the island of Mackinac itself, despite the attempt of some guide-book makers to slur over the facts, cut no figure in history until 1780, when the English lieutenant-governor of Michillimackinac, Patrick Sinclair, removed his headquarters from the mainland to the island, upon which he had, the previous year, built a durable fort; and the Catholic mission was at the same time transferred to the new seat of power. The settlement on the south shore of the strait thereupon became known as "Old Mackinaw," in contradistinction to the modern "New Mackinac." It was at "Old Mackinaw" that the celebrated massacre of the English garri-

son occurred in 1763 (see Parkman's "Conspiracy of Pontiac").

In 1796 the United States first took possession of Fort Michillimackinac; in 1812 it capitulated to the British, who built a new fort on higher ground—Fort George—the remains of which (now known as Fort Holmes) can still be seen. August 4, 1814, American troops, under Colonel Croghan, gallantly stormed the fort, but were repulsed with considerable loss, among the dead being Major Holmes. Our excursionists will be shown "British Landing," a pretty cove on the northwest shore, where the British landed July 16–17, 1812, and where Croghan's troops also touched shore in 1814. The treaty of Ghent resulted in the fortification being restored to the United States, and the transfer was actually made July 18, 1815. The British withdrew to Drummond Island, in St. Mary's River, on the way to Sault Ste. Marie; and the Americans rechristened the Mackinac post Fort Holmes. Later Fort Mackinac was removed to the lower elevation originally selected by St. Clair, and this is the fortification which to-day crowns the harbor. A garrison was maintained here until a few years ago.

Mackinac will always be prominently associated with the story of the great fur companies of the west. In 1783 the Northwest Fur Company opened headquarters here; later the Mackinac Company and the Southwest Fur Company were formidable competitors; in 1815 John Jacob Astor arrived on the scene, and the American Fur Company, of which he was the main spirit, in time reigned supreme at Mackinac. Irving's "Astoria" gives a graphic picture of life among the old fur-traders of those days, but the most detailed account of the trade will be found in Hubert Bancroft's works, vol. XXVII. ("History of N.-W. Coast," vol. 1.), chaps. xii.–xviii. At Mackinac will be found a few interesting relics of the Astor *régime*, kept as bait for historical pilgrims like ourselves; a few old *voyageurs* can also be seen in the French quarter; in fact, despite the changes wrought by the invasion of summer hotels and cottages, and the oppressively omnipresent advertisements of the guide-book man, there are still at Mackinac many survivals of the olden days.

SIDE TRIPS.

Side trips will no doubt be taken by many of our party to Pointe St. Ignace (north shore), Old Mackinaw (south shore), and Sault Ste. Marie. At the Sault—which modern barbarians have vulgarized into "Soo"—there is much to interest one, whether bent on sight-seeing or visiting historical shrines. In 1641 Jesuit missionaries said mass here to a great polyglot gathering of Northwestern Indians, and thereafter, throughout the French and English *régimes*, the place was a favorite rendezvous for priests and traders, who were protected by a small log stockade.

The government canal here, through which more tonnage annually passes than through the Suez Canal, is well worthy a visit. Those who are adventurously inclined will be able to make some arrangements by which they can "shoot the chute" of the Ste. Marie rapids.

Drummond Island is also well worthy of a visit; it is a picturesque spot, and the ruins of the old English fort (1815-1828) are interesting historically.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE TOUR.

In General.

PIONEERS OF NEW FRANCE, THE JESUITS IN NORTH AMERICA. LA SALLE AND THE DISCOVERY OF THE GREAT WEST. THE OLD RÉGIME IN CANADA. FRONTENAC AND NEW FRANCE UNDER LOUIS XIV. MONTCALM AND WOLFE. CONSPIRACY OF PONTIAC. By Francis Parkman.

A familiarity with Parkman's works is essential to a thorough appreciation of the historic associations which will crowd upon us throughout this tour.

NARRATIVE AND CRITICAL HISTORY OF AMERICA.

Edited by Justin Winsor. Boston, 1889. Q.

Vol. iv. of this valuable work has numerous articles by specialists, which cover the ground in a summary manner. Nothing is quite equal to a complete absorption of Parkman, but those wishing to "cram" for the trip may do so in this volume.

HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC MISSIONS AMONG THE INDIAN TRIBES OF THE UNITED STATES. New York, 1855. O.

Dry reading, but good for details of the Jesuit missions, from the Catholic standpoint. Parkman's "Jesuits" is regarded by Catholics as giving an unfair view. Shea's condensed article in vol. iv. of the "Narrative and Critical History" above, is perhaps sufficient for most readers.

MICHIGAN: A HISTORY OF GOVERNMENTS.

[American Commonwealths.] By Thomas M. Cooley. Boston, 1886. D.

An intelligent general view of Michigan history, but not sufficiently detailed for historical pilgrims to Detroit and Mackinac.

[Poole, and the A. L. A. Index, may of course be resorted to for reference to the magazine literature of the subject.]

Cleveland.

EARLY HISTORY OF CLEVELAND, OHIO. By Col. Charles Whittlesey. Cleveland, 1867. O.

OHIO: THE FUTURE GREAT STATE — HER MANUFACTURES. HISTORY OF CINCINNATI AND CLEVELAND. Cincinnati, 1875. O.

HISTORY OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO. [Part II., History of Cleveland.] By Crisfield Johnson. Cleveland, 1879. Q.

HISTORY OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND; ITS SETTLEMENT, RISE, AND PROGRESS. Edited by W. S. Robison. Cleveland, 1887. O.

Detroit.

SKETCHES AND REMINISCENCES OF THE CITY OF THE STRAITS. By R. E. Roberts. Detroit, 1884. O.

HISTORY OF DETROIT AND MICHIGAN. By S. Farmer. Detroit, 1884. Q.

Abounding in antiquarian details — a book, by the way, which should be more generally found in reference libraries than it is.

MEMOIRS OF HALF A CENTURY. By Bela Hubbard. New York, 1887. D.

Particularly good for the antiquarian view, though less comprehensive in this respect than Farmer's. Hubbard gives several of the old French *voyageur* songs — he is an authority on survivals of the French *régime*.

PICTURESQUE DETROIT AND ENVIRONS — 1000 illustrations. Northampton, Mass., 1893. F.

Mackinac.

OLD AND NEW MACKINAC. By Rev. J. A. Van Fleet. Phila., 1869; Ann Arbor, 1870. O.

The best history of Mackinac which we have, but now somewhat rare.

A LAKE TOUR TO PICTURESQUE MACKINAC. By C. D. Whitcomb. Detroit, 1884. O.

MACKINAW IN HISTORY. By Samuel F. Cook. Lansing, Mich., 1895 — privately published. 32 p. O.

Copies of this excellent pamphlet could possibly be obtained from the author. A clearly presented, critical view, dissipating much of the foggy romance concerning the island which has passed with many as sober history.

ANNALS OF FORT MACKINAC. By D. H. Kelton. Issued annually from 1884 to date (except 1885). 25c., paper. D.

The local guide-book. A singularly chaotic piece of book-making, but scattered through it are many useful data not easily obtained elsewhere. The publishers are John W. Davis & Son, Mackinac Island, Mich.

Drummond Island.

DRUMMOND ISLAND: the story of the British occupation (1815-1828.) By Samuel F. Cook. Lansing, Mich., 1896, the Author. Price, 75c.

An excellent historical and descriptive account, just issued, and unique in its field. Address the author for copies.

REUBEN GOLD THWAITES.

CONSULAR REPORTS, May, 1896, 51: 101-109, contains a good article on the "Soo" canals, which may be interesting to those intending to take the Mackinaw trip. G. E. WIRE, M.D.

A. L. A. MEMORIAL TO DR. POOLE.

THE committee of the A. L. A. having in charge the erection of a memorial to the late Dr. W. F. Poole has issued the following circular:

"The American Library Association has twice, by an unanimous vote, decided to erect a memorial to the late Dr. Wm. F. Poole. At the Denver Conference the undersigned were appointed a committee to consider details and solicit subscriptions.

"The committee recommended that the memorial take the form of a bronze bust, to be placed in the Chicago Public Library or the Newberry Library with a suitable pedestal, and this recommendation was formally adopted.

"Dr. Poole has other claims on the recognition of all cultivated people; but it is chiefly as a practical librarian that he will be remembered. He did more than any other one person in America to elevate librarianship to the dignity of a profession. In honoring him, therefore, library workers honor themselves and repay in some measure the debt of gratitude that every member of the fraternity, from the highest to the humblest, owes to his pioneer labors, his shrewd common sense, and his ready, helpful counsel.

"In accordance with its instructions the committee therefore appeals to library workers of every grade for contributions to a memorial in honor of one who, in character and deed, deserved so well of his fellow-men and did so much for his fellow-laborers.

"It is hoped that a prompt and universal response will be made to this appeal, so that that the committee may make a definite report at the coming conference. Contributions, however small, will be thankfully received by the committee. Subscriptions may be sent to Dr. G. E. Wire, secretary and treasurer, or to any member of the committee.

"FREDERICK M. CRUNDEN, *Chairman*,
Librarian, St. Louis Public Library,
"J. N. WING, Charles Scribner's Sons, N. Y.,
"W. I. FLETCHER, Librarian, Amherst College,
"G. E. WIRE, M.D., *Secretary and Treasurer*,
1574 Judson Ave., Evanston, Illinois,
"Committee."

Reviews.

BOWERMAN, G: Franklin. A selected bibliography of the religious denominations of the United States; with a list of the most important Catholic works of the world as an appendix, compiled by Rev. Joseph H. McMahon. N. Y., Cathedral Library Association, 1896. 94 p. O.

There are 69 denominations represented in this interesting bibliography, which was originally compiled by Mr. Bowerman as part of his work at the New York State Library School. It is essentially a "select" list, the aim being to furnish a concise, practical guide to the teachings and tenets of the churches and religious denominations of the United States. The literature of each subject is divided generally into four classes: History, Doctrines and

polity, Periodicals, Year-books; and the entries in each class are closely limited to really representative works. In some cases there is a division Bibliography, and frequently the divisions are reduced to two or three. The History division of the Methodist Episcopal Church is one of the largest in the book, and it lists only 15 books, while some of the smaller denominations, as the Christians, Christian Scientists, and Church of God, have but two or three entries each. The arrangement is mainly alphabetical; although allied bodies are grouped together, Seventh-day Baptists being grouped with Baptists and Reformed Episcopalians with Episcopalians. There are no cross-references, but in the index all the denominations are alphabetically listed under their various appellations. Mr. Bowerman states that much of his material for the larger denominations was derived from the bibliographies of Rev. S. M. Jackson, of the American Church History Society, while that for the smaller bodies was obtained chiefly by direct application to clergymen and denominational publishers. The Roman Catholic bibliography, by Rev. Joseph McMahon, covers pages 59-90, and is divided into periodical literature, various classes of theology, liturgy, history, canon law, etc. It is rather a critical review than a bibliographical list. In the subject covered, and in the practical compactness with which it is treated, this bibliography should be of much interest and usefulness.

CATALOGUE of the books in the library of the Typothetæ of the city of New York; with a subject index. N. Y., printed at the De Vinne Press, 1896. 176 p. O.

Naturally the library of the New York Typothetæ is largely composed of books relating to printing and the allied arts, so that this catalog is, in a measure, a bibliographical guide to books on those subjects. The library contains a good, if incomplete, collection of manuals of printing, bound volumes of typographical journals, rare and early works on printing and the history of the art, and specimen books from the different type-foundries of the United States and Europe. The catalog is arranged by authors, with a subject index appended; in the case of publications of societies or anonymous books, entries are made sometimes under the first word of the title, sometimes under a twisted title arrangement, as "Common Prayer, Book of." Full titles are given, with size, date, and place of publication, but without publishers' names. There are occasional historical and descriptive annotations, some of which are especially full and valuable. The catalog is issued in a limited edition of 250 copies, of which 25 are on Holland paper. In printing, paper, binding, and detail of finish it is a beautiful example of the work of the De Vinne Press, and fitly representative of the practical standards of the Typothetæ. Mr. De Vinne, in planning its preparation and publication, has added to his already great services to the profession.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

THOMAS GREENWOOD, the author of "Public libraries," is, it is announced, preparing a "Public library year-book," which is intended to form an annual record of library progress in Great Britain and elsewhere.

LOCAL.

Albany, Univ. of the State of N. Y. (108th rpt., 1894. 2 v.) In these two bulky volumes are contained the chief reports and bulletins issued by the Regents' office in 1894 and 1895, which have been previously noted in these columns. In volume 1 are the secretary's report, which, so far as it concerns library matters, was summarized in the May L. J.; bulletin 26, on "High schools and the state"; bulletin 27, on "Extension teaching"; bulletin 32, reporting the 33d (1894) university convocation; bulletin 29, on "Summer schools"; and bulletin 30, reporting the 1894 meeting of the associated academic principals. The second volume contains bulletin 32, reporting the 33d (1895) university convocation, and bulletin 33, giving the Regents' ordinances, by-laws, and rules.

Ann Arbor, Univ. of Michigan L. Ex-Governor Alpheus Felch's library will soon be turned over to the university. It consists of nearly 6000 volumes, many valuable for their bearing on American history, and also upon the early history of Wisconsin. It includes also many important historical documents, letters, and pamphlets which are said to be of great value. The university is also to have the valuable philosophical library of the late Gear S. Morris, formerly professor of philosophy in the university. The gift is made by his widow. It includes some 1100 volumes upon the subject of ethics and the history of philosophy and is to be called "The Morris philosophical library."

Augusta, Me. Lithgow L. At the July meeting of the city council an order was passed requesting the trustees of the library "to modify the rules under which books are taken from the library, by adopting the open-shelf system, and, as soon as practicable, to provide a printed catalog, in order that there may be a better compliance with the condition under which the city appropriates annually to the use of the institution \$1000, viz.: the maintenance of a free public library."

Bay Ridge (L. I.) P. L. On July 4 the cornerstone of a new library building was laid. It is to be a two-story and cellar brownstone and washed-brick building. It will have a frontage on Second avenue of 55 feet 2 inches, and extend back 30 feet 2 inches. There will be an extension of 31 feet 3 inches by 5 feet 3 inches. The style will be Romanesque.

The library was established in 1888, and in 1893 it was incorporated. It grew in eight years from a collection of 100 books until it

now has some 5000 volumes upon its shelves. Then it established two sister libraries, one at Fort Hamilton, the other at Bensonhurst, presenting the unique spectacle of two city wards possessing three free libraries.

Much of the success of the movement is due to Mrs. F. N. Doubleday, who fills the office of librarian. The building is estimated to cost about \$10,000, and this will be largely raised by popular subscription, as all the funds already in hand have been raised. The ladies interested in the movement started a market in the Bay Ridge Athenæum, where they sold the surplus flowers and fruit from their own gardens, realizing from \$20 to \$30 a day.

Berkeley (Cal.) P. L. During the six months that the library has been a public institution 508 borrowers' cards have been issued, and there have been 38,532 visitors to the reading-room. In June 1551 books were issued, as against 396 in January.

Blythbourne, L. I. A free public library has been opened in the Sunday-school building of St. Jude's P. E. Church. It is open from 2 to 5 and from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Branford, Ct. Blackstone L. The endowment made for the maintenance of this library by Mr. Blackstone was of the par value of \$100,000 and of the nominal value of \$160,000. His whole gift to the town in this fine building is supposed to have reached the munificent sum of \$500,000. In the account of the building in the July L. J. it was stated that Miss S. C. Nelson was assistant librarian. This was an error. Miss Susie A. Hutchinson is assistant librarian and Miss Nelson is cataloger.

Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L. (15th rpt. — year ending June 1.) Added 3042; total 28,194. Issued, home use 126,771; ref. use 15,866; art studies issued 694; Sunday attendance 10,011. New registration 1148; total registration 8605. Receipts, library fund \$26,687.51; expenses \$14,937.68 (leaving balance of \$11,750.83 to meet expenses to April, 1897).

"The plan of issuing two books on one card has proved very satisfactory."

Five exhibitions have been held in the art department during the past year. The first was opened in September, and consisted of a very fine display of amateur photography in which some of the most eminent photographic societies in the country took part. An exhibition of American posters was next held. Then came the annual exhibition of pictures, which was in point of quality and attendance the most successful exhibition ever held by the library. This was followed by the usual exhibition of the work of local amateurs, and the season closed with a display of foreign posters, kindly lent by Gustave Fresnel, of New York. The directors call attention to the fact that under the will of the late Francis Ives the library has received a bequest of \$1000. They have also received notice that the library will be entitled to a sum of money upon the settlement of the estate of the late Mrs. Susan Adams.

Champaign (Ill.) P. L. (20th rpt. — year ending May 31, '96.) Added 468; total not given. Issued 18,446, a gain over the previous year of nearly 17%.

It is thought that the new building will be completed by Sept. 1. In March Mrs. Framp-ton, the former librarian, was succeeded by Miss Anna L. Le Crone, a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School.

Chicago (Ill.) P. L. The annual report for 1895-96, recently presented to the mayor, gives the following statistics: Added 10,485; total 217,203. Issued, home use 1,173,586 (fict. 41.71%; juv. 21.54%); ref. and periodical use 1,368,658.

The total figures of circulation and reference use, 2,542,244, show an increase of 57,192 over the previous year. It is thought that the new building will be ready for occupancy in January.

Chicago, Ill. Newberry L. The trustees of the Newberry Library are planning for a section to be exclusively devoted to military literature. At present there is no such department accessible to the general reader in any city of the country. The collections at West Point and Fort Leavenworth are reserved for cadets and professional military students, while that in the Congressional Library at Washington is virtually shut off from the rank and file of local residents.

Cincinnati (O.) P. L. All the books in the library relating, directly or indirectly, to the money question have been specially indexed and collected for accessible reference. The number of readers on this subject is large and increasing.

Joliet (Ill.) P. L. At a town council meeting on July 20 the members of the library board made a strong representation of the need of a new library building, and asked also that the annual appropriation be increased from \$30,000 to \$40,000.

Laporte, Ind. On July 9 the board of education accepted, on behalf of the city, the property of the Laporte Library Association, valued at \$15,000, which will be the nucleus of a free public library.

Alterations and additions will be made in the present library building, at an estimated cost of \$4000.

Leicester (Mass.) P. L. The new public library building was dedicated on the afternoon of July 8, the exercises being held in the town hall.

The new building is of Romanesque design, built of Milford granite. On the first floor is the main delivery hall, with reference-room at the left, reading-room at the right, and the book-room in the rear. The entire interior finishings and appointments are of quartered oak. In each room is a Sienna marble fireplace with large mirror. The book-room is shut off by a flexible door, the windows are equipped for steel shutters, and the floor is marble mosaic, thus making it thoroughly fireproof. The standard L. B. steel stacks are used, the total capacity at present being 12,000 v. A second

tier of stacks, however, may be built on above, and the northern wall of the building is so constructed as to allow a continuation to be easily built on at any time.

In the second story are the trustees' room and the museum or society room. In the basement is the public document room and a fire-proof vault. The building is heated by steam, lighted by electricity, piped for gas, and supplied with running water.

Lory S. Watson gave \$25,000 toward the new structure, to which was added about \$15,000 already in the hands of the trustees from other bequests. Construction was begun in June, 1895, by Norcross Bros., and the corner-stone was laid July of last year. The architect, Stephen C. Earle, of Worcester, gave his services to the town free of cost. The library was opened to the use of the town in 1861, with about 1200 volumes, mostly donated by the old social libraries organized in 1793 and 1829.

Maryland. The public library bill presented by the Maryland State Teachers' Association at the last meeting of the state legislature failed to become a law. The association at its recent meeting decided to continue for another year the committee to push the bill. Dr. Bernard C. Steiner, librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, is the chairman of the committee.

Matson (Ill.) P. L. Added 589; total 5229. Issued 24,601. Receipts \$1635.11; expenses \$1287.15.

Mattoon (Ill.) P. L. Added 747; total 1804. Issued 22,799. New registration 542; total registration 1420.

Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L. (18th rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, '95.) As this report is published nearly a year behindtime, it does not give recent details of work or experience, and covers chiefly facts which have already been made public. The statistics are as follows: Added 5375; total 80,510; bound or rebound 4287. Issued, home use 283,646 (fict. 40.9%), of which 23,367 were issued through the six delivery stations, 39,038 through the schools, and 4674 through the Bay View branch. Visitors to reading-room 98,346; Sunday and holiday attendance 9347. New registration 8613; total card-holders 19,937. Receipts \$55,188.06; expenses \$33,268.46.

"The experiment of offering colored picture-books for very little folk has been pleasantly successful. Great care is necessary in selecting these books, for many of those in the market are not acceptable to either thoughtful parents or teachers. Some of the pictures are wrong in sentiment, others are incorrect from a scientific point of view, while others are so very bad, artistically, as to be quite aside from our purpose."

On July 9 was held the ceremony of placing in the base of one of the columns of the new library-museum building a box containing the usual municipal and local pamphlets and newspapers. The first story of the building is now almost completed.

National City (Cal.) P. L. The library was opened on July 20. It occupies two rooms and contains, as a beginning, about 600 v. and a number of periodicals.

NEW YORK LIBRARIES: Institutions under control of churches or philanthropic institutions.

(In *N. Y. Evening Post*, Jl. 4, '96.) 1¼ col.

Lists the libraries of the Cathedral, St. Agnes' P. E. Church, St. George's P. E. Church, St. Mark's Memorial Chapel, The Church Settlement Society of the Church of the Redeemer, St. Barnabas' Reading-room, St. Bartholomew's Girls' Club, the St. Aloysius Library, Broome Street Tabernacle, Aguilar Library, Italian Library, Webster Free Library, Riverside Association Library, University Settlement Library, and other libraries maintained by religious or philanthropic bodies.

New York, Washington Heights L. A petition will be presented to the state supreme court on Aug. 24, asking leave to change the name of the library to Washington Heights Free Library. The library was organized as a circulating library, and incorporated 25 years ago. It was supported by voluntary subscriptions and membership dues. About 10 years ago an income of \$100 a month was given to the library by J. Hood Wright, on condition that it be made free, and since that time it has been wholly free. The subscription was continued after Mr. Wright's death by his widow. A bequest of \$100,000 was left to the library by Mr. Wright, but it is not available until the death of his sister. The change of name has been decided on by the trustees so that the library may receive state aid and its proportion of the city grant.

Newark (N. J.) P. L. A special list of all the books on money and finance contained in the library was issued at the time of the political conventions, and has since been largely used. Indeed, these books have been in constant circulation for some months past, and public interest in the subject appears to be growing. There is now in preparation at the library a list of magazine and periodical articles on the subject.

At a city council meeting held July 17 it was voted to appropriate \$300,000 toward the purchase of land and the erection of a building for the public library.

Norman (Oklahoma) L. A. The association held its first annual meeting July 9. There are about 300 v. in the library and about 75 subscribers. The association intends to give a course of four lectures this fall in the university chapel, the proceeds to go to the library fund.

Norwalk (Ct.) City L. The new city library was opened on the morning of July 18. It starts into life owing to the gift of some 3500 v. by the Norwalk Library Association, which has now merged its interests into the new organization. The library and reading-room were fitted up by the city council, which also provides for

the administrative expenses. Miss D. S. Pinneo is librarian.

Oak Park, Ill. Scoville Institute L. (Rpt.—year ending June 1, '96.) Added 691; total 9092. Issued, home use 52,132; lib. use 2082.

"We have tried for a year the issue of non-fiction cards, in addition to the general card, and for two years the issue of special cards to teachers, allowing them 10 books upon a card. The result thus far is good, the per cent. of pure fiction having been less this last year than in any previous year since the opening of the library."

Omaha (Neb.) P. L. Added 3282; total 51,793. Issued, home use 215,752; visitors to ref. room 22,645. New registration, 2566; total registration 43,621. Expenses \$17,255.25.

Paterson (N. J.) F. P. L. (11th rpt.—year ending Feb. 1, '96.) Added 2248; total 24,779. Issued, home use 111,236 (fict. 79%); on teachers' cards 1211; lib. use 1422; lost 3. Re-registration was begun July 15 and during the period covered by the report 4351 new cards were issued, of which 3362 were taken by persons who had been previously registered. 1288 v. have been rebound, 9286 covered in paper and 7534 mended at the library. The two-book system has proved successful and popular. The librarian urges the need of enlarging the reference-room and extending the book-stack, and suggests the issue of a monthly bulletin.

Penn Yan (N. Y.) P. L. According to the report for the period Nov. 22 to July 22, the circulation of books has been 4600, from a total of 1625 v. There are 563 borrowers.

Peoria (Ill.) P. L. (16th rpt.—year ending May 31, '96.) Added 3338; total 55,593. Issued, home use 134,137 (fict. 44.11 %; juv. 24.58 %); lib. use 5428, the latter figures, however, being no true indication of the extent of reference use. New registration 2890; total membership 5822.

The circulation for the year shows a gain of only 3482 v. and a loss in fiction circulation of 1943 v. "This falling off in fiction may be partly owing to the bicycle, partly to a natural lassitude and reaction following after a number of highly stimulating novels the year before, and also partly to the fact that for two years now our book purchases have been held somewhat in check until our new library building shall be completed. Furthermore, the experience of the last two years has made librarians a little slow and somewhat shy in the purchase of fiction. The well-earned reputation of a famous novelist, the honored name of a great publishing house, these are no longer the guaranty they once were of the fitness of a book for the public library."

Carefully selected libraries, of from 100 to 250 v., were, as usual, placed in four of the city schools farthest removed from the central library. From these, which served in a measure as branch libraries, 6963 v. were issued, of which 3447 v. were history, biography, and travels.

The revision and amplification of the classification has been completed, and the same work for the card catalog is nearly finished. It is thought that the new library building will be ready for occupancy October 1.

Philadelphia F. L. A find of some 80 volumes that had been stolen from various Philadelphia libraries was made by Librarian Thomson, of the Philadelphia Free Library, on July 6. The thief, on removing from his lodging-house, left the books behind him and on their discovery the landlord visited the library and informed the librarian. The books were at once brought to the library and sorted into six piles, each representing the library from which they had been taken; most of them still bore the library labels and book-plates, although in a few cases the labels had been scraped off and the fly-leaves pasted together.

Port Huron (Mich.) P. L. The library, which is located in the Universalist church building, was formally opened on the evening of July 7. For years it has been housed in the high-school building, and its reorganization is due to the action of the common council in appropriating money for the purpose and appointing a library commission. The library now contains about 6000 v., and 1000 additional v. have been ordered.

Portland (Me.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending March 31, '96.) Added 1764; total 41,583. Issued, home use 86,269, of which 442 were drawn on teachers' cards; lib. use 37,693. Visitors to ref. room 19,822. New registration 1484; total registration 13,583. Receipts \$10,197.61; expenses \$7910.98.

The principal undertaking of the year has been the preparation of the two supplementary catalogs, each of which represents five years' accessions.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. F. L. The library report for 1895-96, recently presented to the mayor, gives the following statistics: Added 8499; total 107,644; spent for books, binding, and periodicals \$15,880. Issued, home use 472,718, an increase of nearly 45% over the previous year; lib. use 266,244 (including periodicals). New registration 12,000; total card-holders 30,312.

The issue of juvenile literature has increased from 24 to 27%.

"The year just closed has shown convincingly that the free library is destined to become a most potent factor in the life and development of this city, as well as that of any other community which will give similar advantages to its citizens. We are more and more convinced of its importance as an educator of the masses and a perpetual school for all classes. The eagerness with which the rooms have been thronged and the rapidly increasing list of registered readers testify to the importance of having such facilities for reading and reference free to all."

The need of a new and adequate building is again presented, and the purchase for \$94,000 of a desirable site is noted. "This large invest-

ment will necessitate the most rigid economy on the part of the board; and the book fund will doubtless feel the stringency, for the necessary fixed charges have always been kept down to the lowest figure consistent with the demands of the public for the most efficient service.

"With a suitable lot secured, the next step toward furnishing the St. Louis Public Library with a building is to secure an increase of income or a special building fund. How it is to be accomplished is the problem which now confronts the board."

At a trustees' meeting on July 12 it was decided to adopt the two-book system and also to issue a special card to teachers, on which a number of books for class-work may be drawn at a time. A recommendation was also adopted instructing the librarian to proceed by civil suit against guarantors who have failed to make good losses sustained by the library through card-holders for whom they may be sureties. The librarian was also instructed to prosecute all delinquent borrowers.

At the June trustees' meeting a resolution was passed endorsing the supplementary public documents bill, and urging its passage by Congress.

Salem (Mass.) P. L. On July 8, 1889, the Salem Public Library was first opened to the public. During its seven years of existence it has grown from 11,000 to 32,000 v. and has circulated over 800,000 v. "At the last annual meeting a special committee was appointed to prepare plans for an addition to the building. These plans have not been worked out in detail, but in a general way they may be outlined as follows: a three-story stack for storing the books of the circulating department, the middle floor of which shall be on a level with the delivery-room, and over this a large reference-room. The latter should give shelf-room for 10,000 to 20,000 v. and accommodations for 30 to 40 readers instead of the present 2000 v. and 12 readers. Such an addition as is outlined above would so transform our building that it would be practically new in its usefulness."

San Francisco (Cal.) F. P. L. Branch no. 5 was opened July 6, at 720 Harrison street, in a location where it is thought it will reach an average of 50,000 persons. The library aims especially to co-operate in the work of the schools by supplying monthly classified topical reference lists, maps, gazetteers, etc., to the pupils of the primary, grammar, and high schools. To this end, branches are located as near as possible to the public schools.

Santa Barbara (Cal.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '95.) Added 721; total 11,064, of which 8713 are in the circulating department. Issued, home use 38,925 (fict. 22,176; juv. 5207); no record of ref. use is kept. There are now 1742 borrowers, out of a total of 4115 since re-registration in June, 1891; during the year 679 borrowers' cards were issued. The issue of two books on a card has proved popular and useful.

South Bend (Ind.) P. L. A new catalog of the library has been issued by the board of education. There are now 2285 card-holders, and 25,269 v. have been circulated during the year.

Spokane (Wash.) City L. The library has added an extra room to its domain, which is to be used as a newspaper-room and will be open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Springfield (O.) P. L. (24th rpt.—year ending May 1, '96.) Added 837; total 17,048. Issued, home use 82,569 (fict. and juv. 67,083). Cards in use 5144. Receipts \$6268.92; expenses \$5746.90.

Superior (Wis.) P. L. (8th rpt.—year ending July 1, '96.) Added 4246; total 12,421. Issued 43,283 (fict. 77.6%). Receipts \$9027.49; expenses \$4196.75.

West Falmouth (Mass.) L. The new library building was dedicated on July 17.

FOREIGN.

Hamilton (Ontario) P. L. Added 1580; total 22,255. Average circulation 718 v. per day, of which 56% is fiction. Receipts \$13,652.90; expenses \$13,052.90.

London. The famous library of the Earl of Ashburnham has been placed in the market, and is now in the hands of Sotheby, Wilkins & Hodge for disposal. The manuscript department of this collection was offered to the British Museum some years ago at £160,000, but only the section dealing with English history was purchased. Since then many of the more important manuscripts have been sold abroad, but the collection as it now stands is one of the finest private libraries in existence.

London, British Museum. The blue-book recently issued on the condition of the British Museum for the year ending March 31, 1896, states that the total number of visitors during the year was 542,423, a falling off of more than 36,000 from that of 1894. There were 194,924 visitors to the reading-room, being 8080 less than in the previous year. 1,405,866 v. were issued, as against 1,470,191 in 1894, and there was a general reduction in the use of the several departments. Indeed, the figures of use for 1895-96 are lower than those of any year since 1890. The additions to the reading-room consisted of 34,337 v., 70,394 parts of volumes, besides maps and music and 205,646 numbers of newspapers. The most remarkable accession was a collection of 1014 editions and translations of the "Imitation of Christ"; the correspondence and papers of Lord Nelson were also secured for £3000.

Streatham, S. W. (London) Tate P. L.—(5th rept.) Added 1304; total 15,340. Issued 169,814 (fict., 69.6%). No. card-holders 5646. Receipts £2026.6.8.

Vancouver (B. C.) P. L. 500 copies of a supplementary catalog of new books have just been published. A valuable list of books on

mining, mineralogy, and metallurgy, prepared by Mr. Carlyle, of the Bureau of Mines, Victoria, will shortly be purchased for the library.

Gifts and Bequests.

Augusta, Me. Lithgow L. By the will of the late ex-Governor Williams the Lithgow Library receives a legacy of \$1000.

New Milford, Ct. Egbert Marsh, of New Milford, has given the town \$10,000 towards the funds of a public library on condition that the town pay to him, or to his wife if she should outlive him, \$250 on the first of October and April in each year so long as either shall live. He had previously given a lot of land for a library site. The terms were accepted with thanks at a recent town meeting.

Princeton Univ. L. Contracts for the erection and fitting up of the new library building at Princeton University have been filed at the office of the county clerk. The building contract is with Norcross Brothers, of Worcester, Mass., the price being \$463,000. The building is to be fitted up by the Library Bureau for \$58,712.

Somers, Ct. At a special town meeting held July 22 it was voted to accept the gift of \$3000 for a public library offered by Mrs. L. C. Whitney, of Brookline, Mass., on condition that the town support the library after it is established.

Webster City, Ia. According to the will of the late Kendall Young, a banker of the city, his entire estate, valued at \$200,000, is to be devoted to founding a public library for Webster City, subject to provision for his widow, who is an invalid.

Wichita, Kan. Zopher Tuttle has determined to found a memorial scientific library in Wichita under the name of the Tuttle Library.

Librarians.

BROWNING, Miss Eliza G. At the meeting of the new school board on August 7 Miss E. G. Browning was elected librarian of the Indianapolis Public Library. Miss Browning was defeated for this position in April, although retained as acting librarian, and her reinstatement is one of the first acts of the new school board.

HOFFMAN, Mrs. Susan, has resigned her position as librarian of the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Public Library, owing to ill-health. She is succeeded by Miss Clara Fowler.

SHARP, Miss Ira E., has resigned her position as librarian of the Seymour (Ct.) Public Library, and has been succeeded by A. W. Holmes.

WOODWARD, Robert C., librarian of the Springfield (O.) Public Library, died suddenly on July 24, at his home in Springfield. Mr. Woodward had been librarian of the Warder Library for 19 years, and built it up from a

small and chaotic collection to one of the best organized and most useful libraries in Ohio. He was a native of Springfield, where he was born in 1829, and studied at the Ohio Conference High School and at Wittenberg College. He went into the printing business, was later a travelling salesman, and from 1859 to 1861 conducted a book-store in Springfield. Later he engaged in the book business in Lima, Ill., and in 1869 returned to Springfield and again entered the bookselling and printing business. In 1877 he was appointed city librarian. Mr. Woodward had been a member of the American Library Association since 1882.

Cataloging and Classification.

BOSTON P. L. Monthly bulletin of books added. v. 1, no. 5, May-July, 1896. 36-71 p. O.

CARNEGIE L., *Pittsburgh*. Bulletin, v. 1, no. 7, July, 1896.

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Quarterly bulletin, no. 127, January-March, 1896. 32 p. Q.

HARTFORD (Ct.) P. L. Bulletin, April, 1896. 44 p. D.

Records accessions from January to April, and includes a list of books, old and new, on Travel.

— List of the current periodicals on file in the various public reading-rooms of the city of Hartford. 8 p. D.

HOEFLI, ULR. Catalogo, no. 107; Letteratura Italiana. 1896.

A very full classed catalog of Italian literature. Under Ariosto there are 85 titles, under Dante 704, under Petrarch 469, and under Tasso 165, these divisions ranking almost as separate bibliographies.

JORDEL, D. Catalogue annuel de la librairie française. Année 3: donnant la nomenclature de tous les livres français parus en France et à l'étranger pendant l'année 1895, suivi d'une table alphabétique des matières. Paris, Nilsson, 1896. 8°, 10 fr.

MICHIGAN STATE L. Bulletin, no. 1, June, 1896: Study clubs. Lansing, Mich., 1896. 184 p. O.

The list of study clubs (113) and the outlines of study on the subjects adopted are prefaced by an explanation of the travelling library system adopted by the state library. Based largely in style and arrangement on the "study clubs" bulletin of the N. Y. State Library.

NEWARK (N. J.) P. L. Finding list. Second supplement: books added from March, 1893, to March, 1896. Newark, 1896. 228 p. O. Lists about 16,000 v.

The NEWARK (N. J.) P. L. *News* for June-July has a special list of the books in the library relating to sewage disposal and water-supply.

NOTTINGHAM (Eng.) L. Bulletin, no. 1, July, 1896. 8 p. D. 1d.

The first issue of a quarterly bulletin, to be devoted to lists of accessions, special lists, and general library notes.

OSTERHOUT F. L., *Wilkesbarre, Pa.* Class catalogue and author index: first supplement, 1889-1895. Wilkesbarre, 1895 [1896]. 458 p. O. \$2.

Like its predecessor, this is an admirable list, consisting of a (Dewey) classed catalog, author index, subject index, and an excellent classed and annotated list of historical and descriptive fiction (p. 290-308). The books in this latter division are also given in the author list of fiction. The arrangement is similar to that of the original catalog, the only changes being the omission, in the interests of greater simplicity, of the lower-case letters in the call-numbers of fiction and of the time-numbers in Natural science and Useful arts. The catalog is well and clearly printed, in black type on white paper, and substantially bound in blue cloth with gilt lettering.

The OSTERHOUT (*Wilkesbarre*) F. L. *Newsletter* for July contains two special reading lists on Cuba and on Mrs. Stowe.

The OTIS L. (*Norwich, Ct.*) *Bulletin* for July is almost wholly devoted to Connecticut history, citing lists of the most useful and available state, county, and town histories, local miscellany, biographies, and genealogies.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin* for July contains a full and interesting reference list on Robert Burns. It also includes the list of periodicals taken in the libraries of Providence and its vicinity, first printed in the February number, rearranged in a subject classification with a subject index. There is also a valuable annotated list of "the completed volumes" of the periodicals, serials, and annuals of 1895 added to the library.

RHEES, W: J. Publications of the Smithsonian Institution, May, 1896. Washington, 1896. 86 p. D.

Comprises a classed list, numerical list, tabulated list, arranged chronologically by volumes, and an author, title, and subject index.

ST. JOSEPH (Mo.) F. P. L. Classified list of the circulating department. July 1, 1896. 140 p. O.

A title-a-liner. The author lists of fiction (English, French, and German) cover p. 1-64, and are followed by a D. C. subject list.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for July contains a special reading list on Robert Burns, and a list of "Fictitious sea stories," a sequel to the "True sea stories" listed in the June number.

SCRANTON (*Pa.*) P. L. Bulletin, no. 5: additions from January to June, 1896.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF N. Y. Extension bulletin, no. 13. May, 1896. Summer schools: first annual supplement.

Gives details as to the various summer schools and institutes and their programs of studies. A tabulated record appended gives full statistics on the subject.

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. Bulletin for July has a special list of books on Russia.

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Cherrie, G: Kruck (Contribution to the ornithology of San Domingo);

Egbert, James Chidester, jr. (Introduction to the study of Latin inscriptions);

Fox, W: Freeman (The Adirondack black spruce);

Gilder, Helena de Kay (A letter on woman suffrage from one woman to another);

Lauchheimer, C: H: (Forms of procedure for general and summary courts-martial, etc.);

McKim, Randolph Harrison (The church idea of temperance);

Mann, C: E: (In the heart of Cape Ann);

Norris, W: Fisher, *joint author* (Text-book of ophthalmology);

Ross, J: Dawson, *compiler* (Burnsiana);

Scott, Francis Markoe (Woman and the law);

Scott, Mrs. Lucy Parkman (Extension of the suffrage to women);

Waller, James Breckinridge (Reminiscences of Benjamin Franklin as a diplomatist).

Bibliography.

BELGIUM. Bibliographie nationale: dictionnaire des écrivains belges et catalogue de leur publications, 1830-1880. Tome 3, livr. 4: Rés-Sch. Brussels, P. Weissenbruch, 1896. 289-384 p. 8°. 2.50 fr.

BERALDI, H. La reliure du XIX. siècle. 3^{me} partie. Paris, Conquet, 1896. 235 p. il. 4°.

BIRD-SONG. Charles A. Witchell's "Evolution of bird-song" (London: A. & C. Black, 1896), contains a two-page bibliography.

BURNS. Craigie, W. A. A primer of Burns. London, Methuen, 1896. 196 p. 8°. 2s. 6d. Contains a Burns bibliography.

CHEMISTRY. H. Carrington Bolton's review of "Berthelot's contribution to the history of chemistry," which has been reprinted from the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* for May, possesses considerable bibliographical interest in its mention of early works on chemistry.

GORILLAS. In an article in *Natural Science* for July Arthur Keith gives a list of 95 references on the study of the gorilla.

HYPNOTISM. In the *Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research* for June, Dr. J. Milne Bramwell gives a list of 33 books and articles by James Braid on the subject of hypnotism. A list of references to Braid and his work is also given, to the number of 62 titles.

KANT. Reicke, R. Kant-Bibliographie für die Jahre 1890-1894. Königsberg, Ferd. Beyer's Buchh., 1896. 60 p. 8°. 1.50 m.

LAND QUESTION. Will, T: E. Bibliography of literature dealing with vital, social, and economic problems. No. 1: Land and the land question. (In *Arena*, Aug., p. 380-392.)

A subject list of magazine articles, English and American, on the many phases of the land question. The literature relating to Irish land problems will form a separate bibliography.

MÜHLBRECHT, O. Die Bücherliebhaberei (Bibliophilie-Bibliomanie) am Ende des 19. Jahrhunderts. Berlin, Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht, 1896. 216 p. 8°. 6 m.

NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL LITERATURE. Griffin, Appleton P. C. Bibliography of the historical publications issued by the New England states; repr. from the publications of the Colonial Society of Mass. v. 3. Cambridge, John Wilson & Son, University Press, 1895. 47 p. 8°. \$1.

NORTHWEST. Mazama: a record of mountaineering in the Pacific Northwest. v. 1, no. 1. Portland, Ore., pub. by The Mazamas, 1896. 137 p. il. O. 75 c.

Contains a 4-p. bibliography of the region explored by the Mazama society of mountain climbers.

SOCIOLOGY. The July number of the *American Journal of Sociology* contains a classified selection of important books, dealing with social work, which have appeared during the last six months. There is also a selection of articles in periodicals on the same subject, chiefly those of April, May, and June. This bibliography fills eight pages in very small type.

TENNYSON. Dixon, W: M. A Tennyson primer. N. Y., Dodd, Mead & Co., 1896. 12°, \$1.25.

P. 145-189 are devoted to a "List of dates and bibliography." The list of magazine articles on Tennyson is quite extensive. They are arranged chronologically.

THOREAU. Salt, H: Stephens. Henry David Thoreau; with bibliography by J. P. Anderson. N. Y., Scribner, 1896. 12°. \$1.

U. S. SENATE. "The origin and development of the United States Senate," by Clara Hannah Kerr (Ithaca, 1895), contains a four-page list of references.

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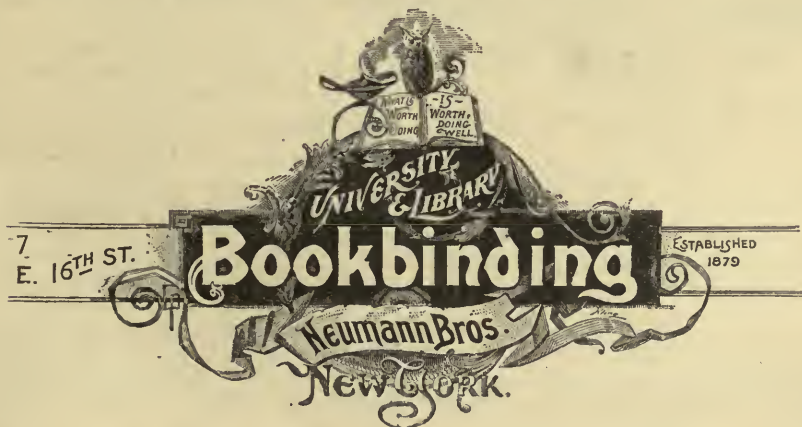
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SEPTEMBER, 1896.

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VOL. 21.

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No. 9

THE Cleveland Conference, in point of numbers as in many other respects, was the most successful which the American Library Association has yet held. That more than 300 out of 500 members of a national association, whose membership is scattered over the whole country, should gather at its annual convention—giving a three-fifths majority present—is almost unprecedented in the history of such associations, and fitly represents the enthusiasm of librarians in their devotion to their chosen calling and to the national association in which it is organized. At this rate of growth what the Association will be with the dawn of the 20th century it is difficult to prophesy.

THE president's address struck an unusual note in presenting "the other side" from that usually brought to the front—the discouragements of librarians and the seamy side of the relation of the library to the community. Mr. Dana's incisive and characteristic paper gave many librarians present the feeling that he must have visited their own respective libraries in Asmodean guise and overheard not only the thoughts of the critics of the library, but their own unexpressed misgivings. It was, perhaps, unfortunate that this note should be struck in the opening address, partly because it was not a tone of inspiration for the meeting and partly because the press is apt to print the president's address, and especially the early part of it, as representative of the spirit of the Association and of the proceedings of its meeting. But the paper itself was a clear-cut and wholesome presentation of "the other side," such as few other than Mr. Dana could so succinctly and interestingly present. Mr. Larned's paper, following the president's address, was the most striking single feature of the Conference, and won exceptional applause for its scholarly tone and workmanship. It struck the same note as Mr. Dana's, but changed at the close from the minor into the major key and was a direct inspiration to all who heard it. Its relation to library interests was large rather than specific, but its reception was extremely significant as showing the tone of the Association and the appreciation of scholarly work on the part of its members.

ONE of the notable features of the Conference was the amount of work that it was found possible to pack within the compass of three days, and the steady attention that all present paid to business. Therefore the post-conference, when it came, was doubly welcome, adding the charm of social intercourse and personal acquaintance to what might otherwise have been too strictly a business meeting. The trip itself was a delightful one; including, as it did, a day at Detroit, where the public library was the most cordial and lavish of hosts, a sail through the St. Clair Flats, Sunday on the lake, and two days at Mackinac, the most beautiful of islands. But in addition to the pleasure of new surroundings, ever-changing natural beauties, and the delights of good company, the A. L. A. post-conference trips have a value that is distinctly professional and that make them about the best investment possible to the librarian who would broaden his views and bring his library more in touch with modern methods. In the rush of constant meetings and steady attendance at the Conference proper, much individual personal exchange of opinions, suggestions, and experiences is well-nigh impossible. This need is met by the post-conference, which furnishes a constant series of "experience meetings" on library subjects, gives the Maine librarian a chance to compare notes with his *confrère* or *consour* from California, and is, in itself, a course in comparative library methods. Librarians, it is well known, take their holidays in visiting other libraries, and even in the most frivolous of their holiday-making—and it is said that A. L. A. trips are frequently distinctly frivolous—the curious observer may note with interest the omnipresence of the ruling passion, that like Banquo will not down.

PERHAPS the most novel incident of the Cleveland Conference was the critical inquest on the books of the last five years, held, with Miss Cutler as coroner, in connection with the report on the A. L. A. Catalog supplement. Heretofore, the Association has in its meetings restricted itself to the general principles of criticism and selection of books; this session was arranged to discuss the merits and demerits of individual

books, with the primary intention of eliciting certain definite principles by which young or inexperienced librarians might be guided in their own work. Certainly, librarians do need to be more generally and thoroughly trained in appreciative criticism—the original list of the “best” books of 1895, compiled from the votes of librarians, and issued by the New York State Library last March, was decisive proof of that fact. A regular A. L. A. session devoted to general book-talk ought, therefore, to be a helpful feature of future conferences.

MISS CUTLER's experiment was as entertaining as it was novel. In special divisions, as History, Science, Sociology, etc., the brisk fire of criticism and analysis was thoroughly suggestive, though here the condemnation of “popular” books by those who find good only in “too, too solid flesh” had to be taken into account. The department of Fiction was, of course, the most entertaining, offering the widest field for varying opinions. It was, too, the least practically useful, for calm, critical analysis was out of the question, the most vigorous speaker swayed the minds of the assembly, and the verdicts rendered savored of “snap” judgments. To submit the question of the admissibility of George Meredith's novels to a hasty show of hands in such a meeting was rather an absurd proceeding and hardly consistent with the dignity of the Association. Indeed, the fiction question, while it is one of the most important of library problems, cannot be treated wisely or fairly in a mass-meeting. The weakness of the critical session lay in the impossibility of obtaining general calm, and well-considered judgment; its strength lay in the importance of the subject and in the abiding interest that book discussion awakens. It introduced into the A. L. A. program a new element, which is capable of helpful influence and wide expansion.

THE “Cumulative index to periodicals,” issued by Mr. Brett, of the Cleveland Library, has now reached its third number and is proving the best thing of its kind which has yet been offered for library use. The Cleveland Library is performing this service at considerable cost to itself, as it takes the time of three assistants, in addition to Mr. Brett's personal oversight, and out of the \$2000 it is estimated it will cost for actual manufacture each year, only about \$500 has been pledged in subscriptions from outside libraries. This out-

lay could scarcely be afforded permanently by any one library, especially one supported at the public expense, and every library which can afford the \$5 should come to the support of this enterprise. It does not attempt to index as many periodicals as Poole's Index, but, on the other hand, such indexing as it covers, it does more thoroughly, by author, title, and subject, and it has an immediate use which the yearly and five-yearly publications cannot lay claim to. The difficulty in doing so good a thing as this—for good things often mean cost in proportion to their quality—has always been the considerable outlay and the considerable loss involved—which was one of the causes leading to the consolidation of the old monthly and quarterly index issued from this office into the annual. But we hope this monthly index can be continued and that it will not render impossible the continuance also of the publication of the “Annual literary index.” This is, of course, the one danger, but we hope there are enough libraries in the country able to take in each to make the support of both possible.

Communications.

THE NEW PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

I REGRET that your exceedingly appreciative comment on the complete design for our new building should have attributed to our study of practical details, among other good qualities, that of originality. I may frankly say that neither the architect nor I had set this ideal before our minds, but that on the contrary we aimed to embody as many as possible of the good ideas already represented in other library buildings. Necessarily, of course, the particular form in which they were worked out in this building may have had an originality of its own. As regards the two details specifically mentioned in the LIBRARY JOURNAL's comment (p. 357)—the “dark room” and the “dictating room”—the former is by no means novel (as may be seen at Boston and Worcester), and while I am at this moment unable to recall having seen the latter in any other library plan, it would not in the least surprise me to find it in one.

Let me take this occasion, also, to state that, in response to a request of mine to be informed of any other libraries (in addition to those named on p. 225 of the MAY LIBRARY JOURNAL) who are using, in any form, the “A. L. A. classification,” the following two libraries only have been reported to me as belonging in the list: Lancaster Town Library, Lancaster, Mass., and the Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barré, Pa. The Bigelow Free Public Library, at Clinton, Mass., also uses a classification based more remotely upon it.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, {
PROVIDENCE. }

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

REPLACEMENTS.

BY BERNARD C. STEINER and SAMUEL H. RANCK, *The Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.*

THE method of replacing books, whether removed from the library by loss, wear and tear, or other cause, is one of no little importance in a library of large circulation. It is believed that a paper on this subject may be timely to the readers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, especially since a search through the 20 bound volumes of the JOURNAL discloses no reference to the subject as such. The question has been referred to in discussions on accessions, but only incidentally. The bibliography of accessions is a part of the paper on the "Accession department," at the World's Library Congress, Chicago, 1893, by Mr. Gardner M. Jones, of the Salem (Mass.) Public Library. (Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1892-93, 1:809-826.)

This study of "replacements" was begun, primarily, with reference to the work in The Enoch Pratt Free Library. We sent a circular letter to about 75 libraries whose circulation is such as to make replacements a matter of some importance in the work of the library. Replies were received from 62; and while the methods of these libraries differ most widely, they may be considered, in a general way, under the following headings:

1. The replaced book receives a new accession number.
2. The replaced book receives the old accession number.
3. No accession book or numbers are used.
4. The accession book and numbers in use differ from the general understanding of those terms.

I. NEW ACCESSION NUMBER:

37 libraries accession all replaced books the same as new ones. This is in line with the rules of the "A. L. A. Accession book." After the book is accessioned methods differ most widely. We shall let each library describe its own way of treating these books. It is worthy of notice that different libraries use different names for the same thing to an unusual degree, in speaking of the various phases of this question.

Bangor (Me.) Public Library:

"Our method in replacing books is to record the new book on the accession record, giving it a new accession number, but using the old shelf number. The old accession number is recorded

in the 'removal record,' with cause for removal. The 'removal record' is ruled for the different items to be noted in recording its removal. Books removed, for whatever cause, are 'dead,' and their accession numbers are *never* used for another book. Our shelf catalogs are those sold by the Library Bureau, and when any book is removed a line in red ink is drawn through the accession number."

Boston (Mass.) Athenæum:

"We have comparatively few replacements to deal with, and so our system is not as carefully developed as it would be if the question were a larger one with us.

"1. When a book is worn out, if it is not to be replaced, the cards are taken from the card catalog and cancelled, but not destroyed. The entry on the shelf-list is cancelled, and a record is made in a register of books exchanged, sold, worn out, or in any way parted with; but no record is made in the accession book.

"2. If the book is replaced by a new copy no change on the shelf-list is required, unless the imprint is different, and no change on the cards, unless the book is of a different edition from the old copy. The same entry as in the first case is made on the register of books parted with, and the new copy is entered on the accession book, but no entry is made against the entry of the old copy. On the back of the author card, where we always place the accession number and date of receipt, note is made of the accession number and date of receipt of the new copy.

"3. When a book has been lost and is replaced at the expense of the loser no record is made on the register of books parted with, but the process in other respects is the same."

Bridgeport (Ct.) Public Library:

"When a book is purchased to replace one lost or worn out, it is the present practice of this library to give the new book a new accession number, though we give it the shelf number of the book it replaces.

"Our method is not wholly satisfactory, but we have never been able to find or devise a better one."

Brookline (Mass.) Public Library:

"In replacing withdrawn books we give the new copy a new accession number, stating in the accession catalog that it is a replaced book. The replaced book is given the same shelf number as the original copy. In case the new copy is a different edition the imprint is changed in the catalog, otherwise the cards are left untouched. We keep a record of all books withdrawn and of the date when each is replaced."

Buffalo (N. Y.) Library:

"In the case of new copies bought to replace books lost or injured and paid for by readers, the old book and accession numbers are retained, as the replacement does not affect the financial

record of the library. If the new book is not of the same edition as the old the shelf-list is made to conform to the new edition. In all other cases the new copies are newly accessioned, 'To replace' being written in the 'remarks' column of the register. They receive the book numbers of the books they replace.

"Our library, which uses the Dewey classification, differs from many in having a complete shelf-list of books and pamphlets on cards, each card containing the full entry of one book or set of books, the cards of each section being followed by many cross-references. The whole constitutes our subject-catalog and is open to the use of the public. It is supplemented by an author-and-title and topic catalog arranged on the dictionary plan, but consisting of brief entries only, and by a book of statistics containing full statistics of the number of volumes, pamphlets, etc., in each class.

"In replacing lost and worn-out books we make no change in the author and title catalog, which is merely a directory to the shelves. But a new or different edition is shown by altering or rewriting the subject card (shelf-list), which also receives the new accession number. If a book is not easily replaced the number is held for it in the book of statistics, in order that the author-and-title catalog and printed finding list may still guide to it. If the book is not to be replaced its number is assigned to a newly added book."

Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny, Pa.:

"We follow strictly the rule given in the 'A. L. A. Accession book,' 'Never assign the same accession number to another volume.' We keep a list of withdrawn books."

Chicago (Ill.) Public Library:

"Worn-out and soiled books are condemned, and for each book a slip is written. These slips are arranged in the order of the shelf number, and kept in regular catalog trays. At the end of each month, in compiling the statistics of the month's work, etc., the number of books condemned is deducted from the total number of volumes in the library. From time to time we copy the titles of those books which we wish to replace, and reorder them. When received they are entered in the accession catalog, and, having been deducted when condemned, they are counted as new accessions. It is not necessary to recatalog them, except in case of new editions. After the books are accessioned, the accession number is written on the 'condemned' card, the date when replaced is stamped on the card, and the card is then placed in a catalog case, which shows in shelf-list order a complete record of all books, worn out, lost and paid for, and missing, which have been replaced since the library was organized. Our wear and tear now amounts to about 4000 volumes per year. Our catalog of worn-out books which have not been replaced contains at present about 8000 slips. Some of these are books out of print, and many are novels which have outgrown their popularity and which need not be replaced."

Concord (Mass.) Free Public Library:

"In making 'replacements' we use a new ac-

cession number, but usually give the books the same shelf number that the worn-out books had. We consider the new accession number to be very desirable, otherwise a book bearing 1895 on its title-page may be found in the accession catalog with the books added in 1880, or Dickens's 'Pickwick papers' in two volumes may be bought to replace a one-volume edition. We like to retain the old shelf numbers on account of the printed catalogs. We make out new cards for 'replaced books,' just the same as for new books, as we consider it less work to do that and put the new cards into the drawers as we pick out the old ones, than to pick out the old cards, make the necessary changes of date and accession number on each, and then to replace them in the drawers. In our accession catalog, against each worn-out book, we make a note that it is worn-out, and when; then, in a small blank-book, kept always with the accession catalog, we keep a list of the accession numbers of worn-out books and a running account of the variation of the accession number and the real number."

Denver (Colo.) City Library:

"The replaced book is treated as an entirely new work, entered in order in the accession book, given a new shelf-mark (that is, one that distinguishes it from any other copy of the same work). The accession number is placed on the author card in the card catalog. The worn-out book, when properly stamped, is entered in the condemned book list."

Denver (Colo.) Public Library:

"The book-card, bearing the same number as the book, is taken from the pocket and the accession number of the book is written thereon in blue pencil. These cards are then arranged according to shelf number and compared with the shelf sheet. If everything is all right, the accession number is crossed off the shelf sheet with red ink. The cards are then arranged according to accession number and in the 'remarks column' of the accession book the letters w. o. (worn out) are written, followed by the date. At the time the book is checked off the shelf sheet an order card is written for the benefit of the order department. The book cards are then arranged once more according to the call number and filed away with similar records. When the new book that is to replace the worn-out copy arrives, it goes through the same process of accessioning as any other book. The accession number of this new book is then written in red ink immediately above the accession number of the copy which it replaces, and it is then given the call number of the original book. When the call number is entered on the accession book a note is made in the 'remarks column' to the effect that it replaces such and such an accession number. The accession number is always looked up and an entry is made stating that it is replaced by the accession number of the new copy.

"We are not altogether sure that our method is the best. However, it seems to work fairly well. It leaves the card catalog undisturbed, though occasioning changes in the shelf sheet."

Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, Vt.:

"We generally enter the new book on the catalog of accessions, as it is usually a new edition or has a new date on the title-page; but we always give it the same shelf number, even if a different edition, for convenience in consulting the catalog. We mark on shelf-list, *rem. date*, — *rep. date*, removed and replaced, and write in the accession number—rather unsightly and cumbersome, but it preserves the statistics for reference, if necessary."

Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library:

"When a book is discarded, the book, book slip, and accession book are marked *discarded*, and the cards are taken from the card catalog and a list made of them. As soon as possible, books are purchased to take their places and they are entered in the accession book and shelf-list, keeping the old shelf number, except that a letter is added to the shelf number to indicate that the book is a duplicate. The cards are then returned to the catalog. A replaced book is given a new accession number."

Hartford (Ct.) Public Library:

"Each book receives a new accession number, but takes the shelf number of the one it replaces. The only change made in the shelf-list is to draw a line through the old accession number and above it to write, *rep. by* —, giving the new number. In the card catalog, if the new book corresponds exactly with the old, the cards remain, the accession number only being changed. But if there are changes to be made, such as cannot easily be effected on the original cards, they are removed from the catalog and new ones are made."

Jersey City (N. J.) Free Public Library:

"Cards of worn-out books are preserved for yearly statistics, and new cards given to the volumes replacing. New accession numbers are given and notes are made in the accession book under the numbers of both new and old books, the one referring to the other. The new book takes the call number of the old one, but the old accession number is crossed off in red ink in the shelf-list and the new number is marked as replacing the old one. No new entries are made in the catalog proper for a replaced book."

Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library:

"We discard about 700 vols. a year. In our charging system we use book cards bearing book number and accession number. When a book is discarded these cards are taken out, from them shelf-sheet entries are marked '*discarded*,' and the cards are filed, making a list of '*discards*,' from which we order. When the replacements are received they are given a new accession number. The shelf-list clerk, however, gives them the *book number* of the discarded book, puts in them a slip marked '*orig. disc.*' and gives them to the cataloger. The cataloger compares them with the catalog, making changes in entries if necessary. If, on comparing the book cards with the shelf-list, the book is found to be the only copy in the library, the card is given to the cataloger, who removes the entries from the catalog, filing them into a catalog of '*discards*.' When

the book is replaced, she compares and replaces entries."

Lowell (Mass.) Public Library:

"Our discarded books are allowed to accumulate until we have about 50, when they are copied in numerical order into our '*discarded book*.' When the time comes for reordering, each entry on the '*discarded book*' is copied on a slip of paper and these slips are arranged alphabetically according to author. From these slips the order is sent to the bookseller. When the books are received, each book is checked on the slip and the original number given it from the slip. Then the book, with its original number, is entered in the accession book and receives a new accession number. The new accession number is entered in the shelf-list with '*Rpd.*' added. '*To replace*' is also written in the remark column of the accession book. The books received are marked '*Rpd.*' in the '*discarded book*,' and the slips for them are destroyed. The remaining slips are arranged with others, which have accumulated in the same way. This furnishes an alphabetical list of all books unobtainable. In replacing we endeavor to obtain the same edition, or at least to get the book from the same publishers. When this is not possible, a new card, bearing the original number, takes the place of the old card in the card catalog."

Lynn (Mass.) Free Public Library:

"We use the regular '*A. L. A. Accession book*' and class sheets. We give every volume an accession number in order of purchase, and we keep a record of books worn out in a volume prepared for that purpose. The titles, accession, and shelf numbers are entered in special columns, and when the book is replaced its title and numbers are entered on the same lines in parallel columns. The book takes the shelf number of the withdrawn volume, with a new accession. This keeps our record of purchases intact for further reference, enables us to know what books have been withdrawn, when the vacancy was filled, and for what cause the book was taken out."

"We use a book for duplicates in which the numbers are arranged in parallel columns, A, B, C, D, etc. When a volume is worn out or withdrawn it is noted in this book, with the date. When it is replaced the new accession is entered under the old one, which enables us to know how many times the book has been replaced, and also how many copies are still in use."

Malden (Mass.) Public Library:

"When a book is withdrawn the accession number is marked '*w*' in the accession book, and in the shelf book a line is drawn through it. When a new copy is bought a new accession number is given it in its regular order of purchase, and this new number is written above the old one in the shelf book. The original shelf number is retained. As regards the card catalog nothing is done until we are sure the book will not or cannot be replaced, in which case the cards are removed. If the replaced book is an edition which differs materially from the old one, new cards are placed in the

catalog. This rarely occurs, as most of such books are of current fiction, where there is little variation in the editions."

New Haven (Ct.) Public Library:

"In discarding a book the title-page is stamped 'discarded,' and the book slip, which is used for charging, receives the accession number. With the book slip in hand the accession book entry is marked 'discarded' by a stamp, the author card is removed entirely from the catalog, or the particular copy, when there is more than one, is crossed off by drawing a line through the accession number, which is placed on the back of the author card. The accession number on the class list is crossed off by a red line. Sometimes the author card from the catalog is filed until a new copy comes; sometimes a new card is made."

New York State Library, Albany:

"Our method of dealing in the accession book with a new book replacing one lost or worn out is given under accession book rule 4 c, f. These state the reasons for never putting two books on the same accession number. In the shelf-list the old accession number is crossed out, the word *lost* written in red beside it, and the new accession number written above the old. In the card catalog, if the new copy is an exact duplicate of the one replaced, the only change is to cancel on the main author and subject cards the old accession numbers and stamp on them the number of the new book. If the new copy varies, the old cards are either altered or are discarded and new ones made. Usually a slight alteration on the old cards is sufficient."

New York Y. M. C. A. Library:

"We give replaced books a new number in the accession catalog."

Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library:

"Our method of treating books which have come in to take the place of lost or worn-out copies is to treat them as entirely new books so far as the accession number is concerned. The shelf-list and cards stand as originally. When a new edition of an old book is received it is treated in the same way, namely: new accession number, old shelf-list number, and placed on the original cards as a new edition."

Newton (Mass.) Free Library:

"We give the new book the same shelf number as the worn-out book, for in this way the public is not troubled by any change we may make. We give the new book a new accession number, since we use the accession book for our statistics as to purchases, etc., at the close of the year. We do not put the book's accession number on the card in the card catalog. In regard to new editions, we have found it more satisfactory to use the same shelf number, unless the book is so different from the old one that it seems to be desirable to treat it as a new book. We put the late edition, with its additions and revisions, and the new imprint on the card with the old."

Omaha (Neb.) Public Library:

"The new book retains the same shelf number, but not the same accession number, as the one it replaces, with one exception. If a book is lost it is paid for by the book-borrower or the

guarantor, and replaced after three months by the library, the new book receiving the same shelf and accession number. When a book is worn out we stamp in the 'remarks' column of accession ledger 'worn out,' with month and year. The book is then 'dead,' but its shelf number is kept until a replacement is made.

"In case we do not care to have a book replaced we mark against it in the shelf-list a green pencil check on the left side of page, thus calling attention to the fact that it is not to be replaced. In a case of this kind the shelf number may be given to another book, but it receives a new accession, and is counted as one of the new accessions of the month and year. Our books when worn out are so stamped in the accession ledger, never in the shelf-list, with the exception noted above. When the discarded or worn-out books are checked in the accession ledger they are stamped 'condemned' across the title-page or first page of book. In addition to the checking in the accession ledger it would be more than advisable to check, on the card in the catalog case, against the accession or copy number of a book, so one could tell at a glance just how many copies of a book were in the library in circulation."

Osterhout Free Library, Wilkesbarré, Pa.:

"In replacing a lost or worn-out book we treat it as a new book, so far as the accessions book is concerned, entering it on date of receipt, and also entering against the old book the fact that it is worn out or lost. In the shelf card the accession number of the discarded book is crossed out and the new one added. On the catalog card nothing is changed, excepting the date of publication if necessary. The book number is not changed if the edition is the same."

Otis Library, Norwich, Ct.:

"This library replaces about 600 worn-out books every year, and pursues the following plan: Entry of the discarded book is made in a record book, giving date, consecutive number of discard, accession number, author and title, noting whether worn out, lost and paid for, etc. The fact that the book is discarded is then noted on the accession book, in the 'remarks' column, with date of discard. If the book is to be replaced, a purchase slip is made at the same time, as most convenient for getting particulars from the accession book. If there is but one copy of the book its shelf-list card is taken out, and placed in order either under the designation of books to be replaced, or books not to be replaced. The letters w. o. (worn out) are placed against the accession numbers on the back of the shelf-list cards. The same plan is pursued with catalog cards; but if there is more than one copy of the discarded book, the w. o. is placed against the accession number, and the cards are restored to their places. When a new book comes in to replace a discarded one, the old shelf-list and catalog cards are used, and the book takes the place on the shelf which its predecessor occupied. It is, however, given a new accession number, and in the 'remarks'

column it is noted that it replaces no. —. If there is a marked difference in the edition replacing the worn-out book, a new catalog card is made, but the former shelf card is retained."

Peoria (Ill.) Public Library:

"Our books have no shelf number, but are arranged on the shelves, under their respective classes, alphabetically according to author, and under the author, as in fiction, alphabetically according to title. When a book is lost or withdrawn, all its cards are withdrawn, and a notation made opposite its number in the accession catalog. We keep also a separate record of all such losses and withdrawals. All books are accessioned in regular order, whether entirely new or to replace lost or condemned books, but we make use of the old author and subject cards if the edition is the same. We do not revive dead numbers."

Portland (Me.) Public Library:

"We give the new copy the old shelf number, but a new accession number, and write 'withdrawn' against the old accession number."

"In the case of works of fiction which are constantly wearing out, no change is made in the card catalog or shelf-list; but for works of other classes, when replaced by a different edition, the rule is either to write a new card, or to note the edition on the old one."

Portland (Ore.) Library Association:

"We keep a 'withdrawal book' as an offset to the accession register. All books that are worn out, lost, or discarded are entered in this record. All books added, whether duplicates or replacements, are entered in the register of accessions. When books are withdrawn their entry is cancelled in the shelf-list and catalog. The replacements are treated as new books. We use the Rudolph Indexer books for our shelf-list, and the replaced book takes the call number of the original copy. The 'withdrawal book' is ruled into columns, headed as follows: Left-hand page—number, date, accession number, call number, author, title. Right-hand page—cause, remarks, date replaced, accession number, call number, remarks."

Pratt Institute (Brooklyn, N. Y.) Free Library:

"Our method of replacing discarded books is as follows: A record is kept, by means of the book cards, of books discarded, and at the end of each month these are entered in a book which we had made for the purpose, and which we call the 'withdrawal book.' This is arranged with consecutive withdrawal numbers stamped on each page, so that by means of these we can tell how many books have been withdrawn within a given time. The headings of this book read as follows: Withdrawal no., call no., no. of copies left, accession no., author, title, remarks, date replaced, accession no., call no."

"The number of copies left is noted in order that we may judge whether we need to replace the book or not. The second accession number represents the accession number of the new copy, and the second call number also. If the replaced copy is exactly the same as the other, a comparison with the old catalog card shows it, and in that case the same call number is given. We use the same call number for all

copies of the same book, if of the same edition, or if exactly the same as the original. If the only change in the added copy is that of binding—that is, if the original copy is bound in one volume and the added copy is bound in more than one (or *vice versa*), the added copy takes the same number as the original with a letter added, *e.g.*, original copy is 2-A821; added copy in two volumes is 2-A821a. This practically changes the book number and yet keeps the various copies of the book together on the shelves. In the column of 'remarks' we note the reasons of the book's disappearance. In the accession book, in the column of 'remarks' we note the final disposition of the book; on the shelf-list and card in the catalog we cross off the accession number, giving new accession number in both these places when the replaced copy is added."

Providence (R. I.) Public Library:

"If there is only one copy of a book in the library and it is lost or worn out, its card is removed from the card catalog. When it is replaced the new copy is newly accessioned, given the same class number as the old copy, with the addition of the letter *b* to distinguish it from the one withdrawn. A new card is made for the card catalog. All books withdrawn from the library are so indicated on the accession book and shelf-list."

St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library:

"When a book is withdrawn it is entered in the 'withdrawn' book, the shelf-list card is stamped 'withdrawn,' and all its cards are taken out of the catalog. The number in the accession book is stamped 'withdrawn' later, at our convenience, and when this is done the shelf-list card is destroyed. On its replacement the new copy is entered in the accession book exactly as though it were a new book, and is added to the shelf-list in the same way. The catalog cards are compared with the book, and if it is a different edition, as it is most likely to be, changes are made; if not, the cards are simply replaced in the catalog. We have no book numbers."

Salem (Mass.) Public Library:

"In withdrawing a book we write 'withdrawn' and date against the original entry in the accession book. The book is then entered in the withdrawal book, which is ruled for the following items: Author, title, cause, date, replaced, new accession number, new call number (generally same as old), remarks. The accession number is then crossed off the shelf-list and the charging slip, which with us is permanent, is cancelled. The copy to replace is accessioned in the same manner as a new book. The new accession number is entered in the shelf-list and also on the back of the author card, the old accession number being crossed off. The proper entries are made in the withdrawal book. In the average public library an old edition of a book is generally useless. For this reason when we buy a revised edition it generally receives the same call mark as the old book, the latter being withdrawn. If the old edition has such special interest that it deserves to be kept, the new re-

ceives a different call mark. In both of these cases the book must be recataloged."

San Francisco (Cal.) Free Public Library:

"A withdrawal register is kept, showing the accession no., call no., author, title, and date of withdrawal of books worn out or lost, with columns also for cause of withdrawal, date replaced, etc. All books withdrawn are entered in this register in consecutive order, in the same manner as in an accessions register. By deducting the last withdrawal number from the last accession number, we have the actual number of books in the library. The new copies take new accession numbers, but the same shelf numbers as the copies they replace. No change is made in the card catalog, except in the case of different editions, etc., and the only change on the shelf-list is to note the new accession number. The system is quite satisfactory."

Scranton (Pa.) Public Library:

"The matter of 'replacements' is one particular phase of a library's continuance, and certainly calls for distinct treatment apart from the usual accessions. The accession book should show in the closing number the total of all additions to the library from the beginning. We use as a companion or corollary to the accession book a 'cancellations record,' in which to enter, in consecutive order, all books lost, damaged, or discarded, which have thus ceased to continue live and serviceable property of the library. Its columnar rulings and headings, therefore, correspond very nearly to those of the accession book, as follows: Accession no., class no., book no., author, title, ed. or vol., place, publisher, year, size, list price, net cost, fund or source, cause of cancellation, when replaced, new accession no. As in a properly used accession book, one line is always allowed for the entry of each volume.

"We consider the accession book as a record of stock *in*, and the cancellation record as that of stock *out*. The difference between the totals of the two shows the net property on hand, and affords a ready basis for annual statistics. A cross-memorandum, or posting, for each item is made in the 'remarks' column from one book to the other. These cross-references are made with little labor and tell their own story from thenceforward.

"In the card catalog, memoranda of accession numbers of the copy or copies of each work and volume, appear on the backs of their respective author cards. In case of withdrawal, or loss, such accession numbers have a cancellation line drawn through them. If such is the final or only copy of a book, and its withdrawal causes a vacant call number, the card or cards are removed from the catalog for the time being and held out, pending possible replacement of the book. When replaced books come to hand, and are fully entered, their accession numbers are duly placed on the corresponding cards, just as in the case of a work newly added. The shelf-list and card catalog should each serve its purpose definitely and in a manner to be relied upon accordingly."

Toronto (Canada) Public Library:

"Our replacements amount to about 500 per

annum, and we include in this books worn out, books lost and paid for, and books destroyed by the health officer. The assistant in charge of the shelf-list, on the loss being reported, marks in red ink L. or L. & P. opposite the number. A monthly list of these books is prepared, which list is brought to the librarian for consultation as to what duplicates or extra copies can be dispensed with. Usually about one-third of the list is cancelled and the shelf number given to a new book. But in every case where we have only one copy of the book we endeavor to replace it, keeping the number in the shelf-list and the name in the catalog unaltered. Replacements are entered as new books in the accession book, and these accession numbers are entered in the shelf-list. We are not altogether satisfied with our method, but it has grown into use as the one presenting the fewest difficulties."

Wilmington (Del.) Institute Free Library:

"We assign one number to a book, and one book to a number. We believe that the accession book ought to contain the history of each book, particularly the financial history. When the book is rebound the fact is recorded in the 'remarks' column, giving date and cost; likewise, when it is worn out and condemned, and when replaced, 'repl.' by such and such a number. Here, then, is the whole history of the life of the book, and a statement of the first cost and all repairs. On the shelf-list and card catalog an exact replacement, or one not so exact in fiction and juvenile, would take the call number of the old book, the old accession number being stricken off the shelf-list card and the catalog card, and the new one put on. The shelf-list and catalog cards are rewritten or corrected, as may be necessary, when the replaced book is a different edition."

2. OLD ACCESSION NUMBER.

16 libraries give the new book the accession number of the one it replaces. To these this library should be added. In our circular letter the method of this library was referred to as follows:

"Our method enables the new book to retain the same shelf and accession number as the one it replaces; and we can replace the book without consulting the shelf-list or the card catalog, so that the cataloging in the first instance stands. A new and different edition usually enters the library without reference to the old book and is cataloged accordingly, in which event the copy of the former edition is said to 'die' and its shelf number may be used for another."

For a better understanding of the method of this library a more detailed description is necessary. A record is kept of books withdrawn, in which is entered in consecutive order the books withdrawn from the library — now some 10,000. This book is ruled for the fol-

lowing items: Withdrawal no., date replaced, author, title, accession no., shelf no. (including duplicate mark), publisher. The entries are brief, the whole entry for one book occupying a line of a page less than 10 inches in width. If for any reason a book is not to be replaced, "discarded" is written against it in the "date replaced" column. Books to be replaced are made into numbered lists, said lists being sent to the bookseller, who always enters the number of the list against each book on the bill as it is sent to the library. The number and date of the list is written at the head of each lot in the record of books withdrawn. There is, therefore, no difficulty to find when a book was withdrawn, in entering the date of the bill on which it is replaced, even though the book may have been withdrawn many years ago. When the books to replace are received they are entered in the "replacement book," ruled as follows: Date of bill, replacement no., author, title, publisher, date, size, pages, binding, source, cost, remarks. In the "remarks" column is entered the number of the list, thereby providing for easy reference to the record of books withdrawn. The replacement number is then posted in the "remarks" column of the accession book. It is also written under the old accession number on the back of the title-page of the book.

In practice this method amounts to accessioning the replacing book, but in such a way that the cataloging cards need not be touched. The entries in the "replacement book" are somewhat briefer than in the regular accession book, so that in practice it is found that a hundred books can be entered therein and posted into the accession book (completing the work on replacements, except the labelling and tagging) in about the same time it takes to enter a hundred books in the accession book. The exact number of books in the library can be readily told at any time and every question that may arise concerning a replaced book can be answered as accurately as any question concerning a book that had never been withdrawn.

The method described above has been followed since the beginning of 1893.

Those libraries that retain the old accession number will now describe their methods.

Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Mass.:

"If the new book is of the same edition as the one it replaces it simply takes its place and no reference is had to the catalog or shelf-list. A new and different edition receives the

same number as the book it replaces, with letter to show duplication, and is cataloged accordingly. We do not 'kill' any worn-out catalog books, but leave their numbers vacant, in the hope of future replacement."

Birmingham (Eng.) Free Library:

"We deal with replacements as follows:

"1. The new copy is given the old number.

"2. The date of the edition is revised when necessary.

"3. The cost of the new copy is carried in the shelf catalog.

"In regard to obsolete books discarded from the library the location numbers of these are not used again until a new edition of the catalog is issued."

Columbia University Library, New York City:

"We keep an accession book with a number for each volume. In case a volume is found to be duplicate, is lost, or condemned as being worn out, one of two things is done. If it is a lost book and can be replaced, it is replaced, and the old number is stamped in the new copy. In this case none of the library records are destroyed, but we enter on the accession book the fact that a new copy has been put in. If the new copy happens to be a different edition, the catalog cards are corrected.

"If the book is condemned or lost, and it is not deemed desirable to replace it, or if the book is shown to be a duplicate, these facts are entered on the accession book and the number is transferred to a supplementary accession book and will be given to a new book. This supplementary accession book is reached by reference from the regular accession book, as the numbers in it are not consecutive. The theory is that the accession number shows the number of bound volumes in the library, and it does this approximately. If the new edition of the book replaced is radically different from the book lost or condemned, we treat it as a new book and simply enter against the old number 'lost' or 'condemned' and transfer that number to our supplementary accession book."

Cornell University Library, Ithaca, N. Y.:

"If a book is replaced by a copy of the same edition, so that it is an exact duplicate of the original copy, we give it the same accession and press number, and the catalog cards require no change. If, on the other hand, a book is replaced by a copy of a different edition, the new book receives a new accession number, but is given the shelf number of the original copy, and the catalog cards are corrected to conform to the edition, date, etc., of the new copy."

Dayton (O.) Public Library:

"When a book is worn out we record in a book especially for that purpose, the author, title, publisher and place of publication, book number, shelf number. When the book is replaced, if it agrees as to author, title, etc., we give it the old number, if not, a new number, and count the old book as out of print."

Hamilton (Ontario) Public Library:

"We retain the same accession and shelf number for each worn-out book replaced, and note on the back of the title-page of the new copy that it is replaced for the second time or

more, as the case may be, with date of replacement. If the publisher or price of the new copy is different, we note this on the card in the catalog. If a book is lost the new copy is treated as a new book and given a new accession and shelf number. All our worn-out books are sold direct to the paper-mill and are sent to the mill, at intervals of about four months, under a guarantee that they go direct into the vat. We prefer this mode of disposing of them, rather than of selling them or giving them away, as none of them find their way into second-hand stores or turn up in other places to give us trouble at some future time."

Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library:

"We do not use the same shelf number for a new edition. If a new edition comes in it receives a shelf number beside the other, thus: T900, the old edition, would stand beside TA900, the new. If the book is in fiction, poetry, etc., and in the new edition there is no change, we give it the old shelf and accession numbers and place it at once on the shelf, noting the number of the new edition on the condemned check, which now becomes the replaced check. In the case of the new revised edition, it takes a new shelf and accession number, and these items noted on the condemned check indicate that the original edition could not be procured. The replaced checks are filed. When a new finding list is issued T900 is dropped and TA900 is printed."

Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library:

"In addition to our accession book we keep a 'replaced accession book.' In this way our replaced books retain their original shelf and accession numbers, and receive an additional accession number. The card catalog remains unchanged. Change in title, publisher, or edition is shown in the replaced accession book. The proper numbers are entered in each book, so that reference is easily made from one to the other."

Lawrence (Mass.) Public Library:

Like Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Manchester (Eng.) Public Free Library:

"The new copy takes the place and number of the worn-out one, and when a book is not replaced its shelf number is used for another. With ordinary novels in the lending library we pay no attention to editions, and therefore it is unnecessary to make any alteration in the catalog. Later editions of other discarded books are cataloged as new books, and the catalog entries of former editions are taken out."

Manchester (N. H.) City Library:

"In dealing with 'replacements' we first enter each book in a blank-book kept for that purpose. This entry is not so full as an entry in an accession book, but it is kept for the purpose of ascertaining at the end of the year how many books have been replaced and at what cost. On the shelf-list no new entry is made, but the book is given the number which belonged to the old copy. On the catalog no change is made in the case of novels, but any other book which is published later than the original one has either a new card made for it (the old card being withdrawn) or the old card

is corrected to correspond with the replaced volume. The replaced book always receives the same accession number that the first book had."

Minneapolis (Minn.) Public Library:

"When for any reason a book is no longer a part of the library, a blank is written for it. When a blank is written up, with all the necessary information noted, the fact of the loss is recorded on the shelf-lists (usually by drawing a pencil line through the particular duplicate letter of the copy which is lost, so that the line can be erased when the copy is replaced). These blanks are then filed away alphabetically, forming a record which is very convenient in taking the inventory. In case the book lost is the only copy, the fact is reported to the librarian, and it is either replaced (in which case nothing is done to the catalog card), or it is considered a useless book, and the catalog card is withdrawn from the case. When duplicate books are purchased the blanks are looked over and as far as possible the duplicate books take the place of the old ones, receiving the same accession number, etc. Whenever a book is so replaced it is looked up in the accession book, and any difference in price or description between it and the original is noted. The book is restored in the shelf-lists, and steps into the place of the original copy. The blank is then stamped 'replaced,' and is filed away to form a record of the transaction. When a new edition of a work comes into the library we do not consider that the old one dies; we simply note the new edition on the catalog card, so that one card records all the editions which the library has."

New York Free Circulating Library:

"Our method enables the new book to retain the same shelf and accession number as the one it replaces, and the cataloging in the first instance stands. A new edition, if that is merely revised and corrected, is usually treated in the same manner; but a new edition much enlarged, or a new edition containing additional matter with separate title (e.g., "Catherine and Denis Duval" replacing "Catherine") is cataloged, accessioned, and shelf-listed as an entirely new book and the old accession number 'dies,' but is allowed to remain 'dead,' not assigned to any other book. In some instances, where the old book is in the printed catalog, but cannot be replaced in the same form, we rebind the book to agree with the old edition. This, however, rarely happens. All worn-out, lost, and duplicate copies are treated in this way. All worn-out and lost books are replaced whenever possible. If such a book happens to be out of print at the time, the book card, accession no., shelf no., and catalog cards are retained until such time as the book again appears in print."

Northampton (Mass.) Public Library:

Like Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Library Co.:

"When a book is lost or worn out we always make a special effort to replace it by a copy of the same edition; viz., one that will require no change in our catalog and no differentiation

except the numbering of successive copies of the *same* edition. Each successive copy which is of the same edition is numbered successively, though all bear the same accession number; e.g., 2916, copy 1; 2916, copy 2, etc. When a copy is lost or destroyed or worn out, we mark that fact on the margin of the accession catalog, and give the next copy number to its successor. We never assign the same accession number to two copies that differ in the slightest degree, bibliographically, from each other. A new or different edition is treated as a different book."

Worcester (Mass.) Free Public Library:

Like Enoch Pratt Free Library.

3. NO ACCESSION BOOK.

Only four libraries use no accession book, and the methods of replacing vary accordingly.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library:

"We do not keep a regular accession book, but in its place an *invoice book*, with ruled columns for classification, etc. If a number of copies of a work are bought there is still only one line in the invoice book to indicate the number. But on the shelf-list the duplicate copies are marked *a, b, c*, etc., sometimes to the end of the alphabet and beyond. When a book is sold we mark out the letter indicating the copy. If we replace the copy we mark it with a new letter—the one following the last one used. The shelf number is never used for any other work, even if the only copy we have is lost. Unless the new edition of any work is markedly different from the old, it is shelved as a duplicate of the original, although it may place a new card in the catalog to indicate wherein it differs from the old edition. Each new book added has the date of entry marked on the back of its title-page, so that its price or seller may be looked up at any time if required. We keep a list of all books sold or exchanged, etc., and these are deducted according to classification from the yearly count, when the annual report is made up."

Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.:

"If a book is worn out and is replaced by the same edition, it is given the same shelf number. If a new edition is obtained, it is treated as a new book and cataloged afresh, and is given a new shelf number. If it is not replaced, the entry in the card catalog and shelf-list is cancelled. We have no accession catalog distinct from the shelf-list. The two are combined."

Detroit (Mich.) Public Library:

"Our method of discarding worn-out books and replacing them with new ones has been evolved by experience, and without any knowledge of the practice of other libraries. The library is classified on the decimal system, and uses the Cutter book number. There is no accession number and no shelf number. There are printed catalogs and a card catalog. The shelf-list is kept on cards in trays in a fireproof safe, as an inventory. Of the 1780 books worn out last year 1709 were fiction. When books are not worth rebinding they are thrown aside, and on the last day of the month a list of them

is made and submitted to the librarian. Unless there are reasons for preserving any, on account of rarity or special value, they are thrown into the furnace. The list is then made into an order on the book-dealer, and the cards are taken out of the card catalog and the shelf-list. If, as often happens in fiction, the worn-out book is a duplicate copy, the cards are not taken out, but a memorandum slip is inserted. When the book to replace the worn-out one comes in, it is given the same number as the old book. If it is the same edition as the old one, the catalog and shelf-list cards are reinserted unchanged; if it is a different edition, the cards are corrected, or new ones written. If, as sometimes happens, the worn-out book is entirely out of print and cannot be replaced, the cards are destroyed; or, if a duplicate, this copy is erased from the cards. The same method is employed in replacing books lost and paid for."

Yale University Library, New Haven, Ct.:

"We do not keep an accession book. The new book, if of the same edition, takes the place of the old without further ceremony; if of a different edition, the shelf-list and cards are corrected, or a new card written to replace the old."

4. MODIFIED ACCESSION BOOK.

Two libraries use accession books and numbers in an unusual way; a way, however, that has its advantages, as will be seen.

Boston (Mass.) Public Library:

"This library has no accession book in the ordinary sense of that term. Upon the removal of the library to the new building the Lower Hall branch, the prototype of the other branches, was consolidated with the central library; but many details of numbering the books, etc., have been retained which are at variance with the practice followed in the central library. Any book condemned has a line drawn through its accession number on the shelf-list, the replacing copy receiving its own accession number. In this way the shelf-list tells how many copies have been used up, the library life of any copy, and how long the popular life of the book has continued. Persistent efforts are made to replace books that are desirable, as it is the policy of the library not to allow books to die out from the collection."

"In the general collection any replacement, if identical with the condemned, missing, or lost copy, receives the same shelf number, but its own accession number. Replacements differing in edition receive new shelf numbers, and each separate edition of any book receives its own shelf number."

"It may add to a clearer understanding of the system above described if some information be given about the accession numbers now in use in the library. In the case of purchases every invoice receives the date of the day it comes to hand and a letter, thus: *March 7/'96—C*," which means that it was the third invoice received on that day. This same date and letter are put on the verso of the title-page of each book covered by that invoice. The date and

invoice letter are entered in the shelf-list. These invoices are filed away as received and a separate chronological list is kept. Books received by gift bear the date when received and the name of the giver on the title-page. The date only is entered on the shelf-list.

"The cards covering any condemned, missing, or lost book, not replaced for valid reasons, are taken out of the public card catalog; but in the official card catalog the main or author card is allowed to remain after having had noted upon it what has become of the book covered by it. This note prevents the reordering of any book whose replacement is not desired, or it shows what disposition should be made of a book newly received by gift."

Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library:

"A new copy of a worn-out book, if it differs from the old one in any particular except perhaps in the imprint, is generally entirely recataloged, and the new cards are substituted for the old ones. No changes are made where the new copy corresponds entirely, or practically, with the old. This does not apply to fiction, for here we make no account whatever of the edition, and consequently a new copy rarely requires recataloging. With regard to the accession book, our method differs considerably from those ordinarily employed. We use a Library Bureau accession book, and enter in the usual way all costly books as well as those which we buy in small lots from dealers who are not our regular agents. All ordinary books of the day, whether replaced books or new ones, are entered in the accession book as follows: First, costly books, as above. To the others (and this generally means the entire bill) one accession number is given, and a memorandum of the number of volumes, together with

the total cost, is put in the accession book. The bill is then pasted in a large book kept for that purpose, after being stamped with the accession number, and can be referred to at any time. We have used the above method about a year and have found it entirely satisfactory. It is our belief that the accession book as ordinarily used costs a great deal more in time and labor than its results are worth. By our present method we save a great deal of time, and we find filed bills supply the place of full accession entries as far as the great majority of books are concerned."

From this extended study of replacements we conclude that any method that practically involves the recataloging of a book every time it is worn out, or lost, and then replaced, is one involving much expense—more, indeed, than the results are worth. The force of this statement must be evident when it is remembered that more than 90 per cent. of the replacements in circulating libraries are in the classes of fiction and juveniles—classes where editions, etc., mean least of all. The number of replacements in The Enoch Pratt Free Library is such that any method involving, in effect, the recataloging of every book would require the employment of another person. We do not believe the results would justify the cost. The subject of replacements has not received the attention it deserves. It is hoped that this paper may contribute something toward the solution of a vexing and perplexing problem.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENTS.*

BY MARY ELLA DOUSMAN, *Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.*

THE most interesting problem in the modern library world is how to best serve the interests of that "most numerous and worthy part of the community—the children." Too much thought cannot be given to the best ways of attracting the little ones from all walks of life, and showing them the way to gather for themselves the treasures which our libraries contain.

One of the best ways to accomplish this lies in the equipment of one room or more in which special attention can be given to the needs of children.

Much of the success of such a room would depend on the one in charge, who, with love for children, the right spirit, and the enthusiasm necessary to carry on such work, could find

endless opportunities for reaching and helping the children.

The children's room should be easy of access, on the ground floor, and within sight of the main delivery-room, if possible, one entrance serving for both. Separate entrances tend to divide the children and grown folk completely, adding somewhat, perhaps, to the comfort of such adults as do not like to be bothered with children; but there appears to be no other advantage and there are some drawbacks. In an ideal children's room fathers, mothers, teachers, and older brothers and sisters should be welcome; for if not here, where else shall a little child lead them?

Children are greatly influenced by their surroundings, and a room devoted to them cannot be made too attractive. It should be of good size, light and airy, sunny, if possible, with

* Paper read at a meeting of the Milwaukee Library Round Table, Aug. 6, 1896.

plenty of wall-space for pictures. The wood-work and furnishings should preferably be of light wood, as it is more cheerful and does not show wear as do the darker woods. Window-boxes filled with plants and vines would add to the home-like appearance of the room. Casts, reliefs, and replicas would be great additions. Mounted photographs and plates might be put about the room. To do this without marring either wall or pictures the use of a spring clothes-pin, fastening the picture to suspended cords or chains, has been suggested.

The chairs and tables should be of different sizes to suit big, little, and middle-sized children. One library has revolving stools, which, while they do not produce a pleasing effect, have the advantage of being adjustable to variable heights.

Young folks' current periodicals should be on the tables, and all books within reach on the shelves, the linen and pasteboard pictures being found on the lower tiers. A supply of mounted pictures may be kept on hand for the children to look at when tired of reading. A bulletin board upon which might be placed interesting facts, bits of news, quotations, lists of interesting books, etc., would be an interesting feature. Teachers should co-operate with the library in assisting on amusement or lecture evenings; and, in return, the one in charge should carefully follow the lines of work in the schools, and provide lists of books on subjects under consideration. A selection of books on special subjects might be placed on certain shelves for the convenience of teachers and pupils.

If the children show a disposition to be helpful in any way, always encourage them, by having them assist in replacing books, perhaps, or arranging periodicals on the tables, etc. All that tends to make them feel an interest and ownership in the room will tend to make them wish to come often and to bring others to share their pleasure.

The sense of personal ownership was especially emphasized upon the recent opening of a children's department in the Buffalo Library.

Placards were printed and placed wherever they were likely to attract the attention of children—at missions, hospitals, homes, orphan asylums, fresh-air establishments, drug-stores (for soda-water customers), candy-stores, newspaper offices, newsboys' homes, mission Sunday-schools, etc. They were printed in bold and attractive type and read as follows:

BOYS AND GIRLS,
A ROOM FOR YOU IN THE
BUFFALO LIBRARY.
BOOKS FOR YOU TO READ.
PICTURES FOR YOU TO LOOK AT.
MAPS FOR YOU TO PUT TOGETHER.
MAGAZINES FOR EVERYBODY.
Some one to tell you stories.
Bring your little brothers and sisters.
Come and enjoy YOUR ROOM at the BUFFALO Library,
Corner of Washington Street and Broadway.

The cards were posted on Friday and Saturday, July 31 and August 1, 1896, with the following results:

"Result 1. Monday and every day since, children's room crowded, and overflow meetings have been held in adjoining committee room."

"Result 2. A steady current of extra tables and chairs from all parts of the library upstairs-ward."

"Result 3. More small furniture ordered."

"Result 4. More dissected maps ordered and more animals sliced."

"Result 5. The happiest children anywhere to be found."

In an interesting letter from the head of this department, Miss Fernald writes: "In addition to our books and pictures, our dissected maps and sliced animals, suggested by Miss Stearns, are extremely popular; children wait for them in threes and fours. We are going to have more. We have just added kindergarten peg-boards, and picture scrap-books are in process of construction. I keep pencils and paper at hand for restless little people who are tired of looking at pictures and think it fun to make some. We shall have a regular hour for story-telling, and announce the hour and subject on our bulletin board. I fancy many children who have not pleasant homes may be glad to prepare their lessons here. The children are orderly and friendly, and are spreading the news that there is a place for them here rapidly."

Miss Pratt, in charge of the children's room at the Minneapolis Public Library, gives a most interesting description of that department. The room is on the ground floor, is cheerful and pleasant, and is open from 1:30 to 6 p.m. in summer; from 3 to 8 p.m. in winter. The same system of receiving and charging books is used as in the general library. During the hours when this room is not open the books may be returned upstairs. The children have

free access to the shelves, are quiet and orderly, and uniformly grateful for any assistance rendered.

Miss Pratt regards a separate and free access to the shelves as best adapted to the needs of the youngest children, as the older boys and girls seem inclined to keep on reading juvenile books, rather than take the more mature books from the other department, where it is a little more trouble to select, as they are not allowed the freedom of the shelves.

Low tables and little chairs will soon be put in. The winter circulation averages 200 a day, and between 500 and 600 on Saturdays. This does not include books sent to branches and schools.

In the new Milwaukee Library building the children's room will be on the first floor, to the left of the main delivery-room, so that it may be controlled, when necessary, from that department. The librarian "believes that the most valuable work of the library will be done here."

The Milwaukee Library is especially fortunate in having the natural history museum in the same building, and by working together much good may be accomplished by the two institutions.

Miss Stearns in an address before the Chicago Library Club gives us a pleasing picture. She says: "Gather your little ragamuffins up in one of the rooms of the library and bring out the beautiful colored plates from Audubon's 'Birds' and teach them a love for and admiration of God's animate creation." The Milwaukee Library will be in a position to do this and more, for the children may be sent from the pictures directly to the collections of birds in which the museum is so rich. The same may be done with Edwards's "Butterflies," with the plates from Brehm's "Thierleben," and countless other treasures.

The children should be required to make a show of clean hands before being allowed to handle the books, and in order to facilitate this a lavatory is quite a necessary adjunct to the room. Some of the rough usage to which the books are subjected might be avoided by enforcing this rule.

The children's room in the Denver Public Library adjoins the delivery-room, with no gate or door between the two. During the first 16 months it had on its shelves from 3000 to 6000 volumes of juvenile books. Children have been admitted to it without restriction

12 hours a day every day in the year, and were permitted to select their own books, carry them to the delivery-counter, some distance away, and there have them charged. The library has no age limit. 90,000 volumes were lent out in the first 16 months. Probably from 40,000 to 50,000 visits were paid to the room by the children and others who did not take books away.

On checking over this department at the end of 16 months, there were found missing 123 books. These probably cost the library about one-fifth as much as to have managed the room in the old way, without open shelves and with an attendant constantly in charge. And of these 123 books it is probable that at least one-half will be returned inside of six months.

Children's departments have also been established at Brookline and Cambridge, Mass., Detroit, Mich., New Haven, Ct., Omaha, Neb., Carnegie Public Library, Pittsburgh, Pa., Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., Seattle, Wash., and San Francisco, Cal. Rooms have been planned for such purposes at Providence, R. I.

THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN UTAH.

THE passage of a library law by the Utah legislature on March 9 seemed evidence that the modern library movement had gained a foothold in the youngest state of the union, but, unfortunately, the new law has not yet produced the desired results. The present status of library affairs in Utah is briefly set forth as follows by Mrs. Harriet F. Emerson, president of the Ogden (Utah) Library Association, and one of those most interested in promoting the library legislation of last March:

"There are but two public libraries in Utah, one in Salt Lake City of 10,000 volumes, and one in Ogden of 1500, neither of which are free but maintained by subscriptions, entertainments, and an occasional appropriation from the city.

"Logan has a library in connection with the State Agricultural College, which has been made accessible to the public during the past year.

"Two years ago it seemed to some of those interested in library progress that the time had come when the larger cities should assume the support of the public libraries, and a bill was introduced at the next session of the legislature praying that a tax might be levied for this purpose. The bill passed both branches of the legislature but was vetoed by the governor.

"Nothing daunted, another bill was drafted and presented to the next legislature, which convened last winter, and it passed and re-

ceived the governor's signature, but so altered and amended as to be scarcely recognized by its friends.

"It gave the city council the power to levy a tax of one-third of a mill, provided that, in cities of the first class 1000 property-holders and taxpayers should sign a petition favoring this tax, but left it optional with the city council to authorize this tax or not.

"In Salt Lake City nothing has been done in the matter, probably waiting for further legislation, but in Ogden the Library Association secured the required number of names to a petition and presented it to the city council; but they have refused to authorize the tax, giving instead a small monthly allowance.

"This has been a very great disappointment to us, although we realize the peculiar situation and understand why it was thought best not to increase the taxes just now. Utah has so lately assumed the responsibilities of statehood, with its additional burdens of higher taxes, that our city fathers were afraid to add even so small a straw as the proposed tax for the public library.

"During the next session of the legislature we hope to have a better bill passed, one that shall enable us to take our place in the large circle of libraries throughout the land, and by which we may be able to maintain a free public library in Ogden that shall be a credit to our young but growing city. Ogden has a population of 15,000 and there is no reason why we should not have a library of at least 10,000 volumes and a handsome building of our own. All that is needed is a little more enthusiasm on the part of those particularly interested and a more intelligent appreciation of the importance of the public library on the part of the people."

HOW TO MAKE A SMALL LIBRARY USEFUL.

THE following suggested means of increasing the usefulness and popularity of a village library are selected from a symposium on the subject, contained in the sixth report of the Massachusetts Library Commission. Replies to the circular sent out by the commission were received from a large number of libraries, and the symposium evidences a most general and inspiring spirit of helpfulness and appreciation of public wants.

"Courteous treatment to all, aid to those needing direction in the line of reading they wish to pursue, and a careful selection of books that tend to cultivate the public taste for reading for improvement and information."

"The most important attraction, in my experience, has been the placing of the new books added in some convenient place, so that the public may have access to them and select the ones they like."

"Have as many illustrated books as possible, particularly for the children and young people."

"Keep the teachers interested; ask them to direct the pupils as to line of books to be read, and also to special subjects, which need not

always be connected with school work. And most important, let the librarian be a cheerful worker, anticipating the wants of readers, and especially those of the younger patrons."

"Untiring courtesy and willingness to answer all demands, unswerving justice to every applicant; the use of local papers for items of interest concerning the library; a prompt placing of new books in the hands of the public."

"Giving to every one a cordial reception; always taking special pains to get the best books on the subject we have, and having books where people can see them."

"We have circulated our magazines for nearly two years; think it works well. Allowing advanced pupils and others to select from the shelves, under supervision, works well with us. So far we have found it safe. Our summer residents are delighted with this extension of liberty and have never abused it."

"Posting lists of books appropriate to any particular event—holiday, death of well-known man, celebration, etc. We aim to put these up at time of any great happening. We find the public is interested in a list of '10 latest accessions,' which we put up and fill, disregarding class of book, which is brought into account on the regular bulletin-board list."

"An abundance of bulletins; generous appropriations; increase of facilities for consulting the resources of the library; an information-desk."

"Principally money, system, well-regulated and classified books and catalog."

"Have books which the people will read, fiction predominating. Have a large share of juvenile literature, to interest the young people and inculcate the reading habit."

"1. A very judicious selection of books from all departments of literature, made with the desire and purpose to furnish only the best. 2. A careful study of the growing needs and tastes of the reading community. 3. Calling attention occasionally to attractive and valuable books, through the local press or by personal intercourse with the more intelligent readers, by members of the purchasing committee. 4. Putting no covers upon the books, thereby avoiding that depressing look of sameness and uniformity which shelves of covered books suggest. 5. Giving readers perfectly free access to the shelves of the library. Let no bars, railings, or librarian, even, stand between the reader and the books. In large libraries this may not be feasible, but in small libraries it is, and it is a good that should not be sacrificed to any prim ideas of order. Few will abuse this privilege, and cases of abuse can easily be dealt with without sacrificing the advantage which results to the many in being allowed to browse freely, with no let or hindrance, in all the fields of literature which the well-chosen library affords. In confirmation of the above, I may say that our summer visitors, coming mostly from the larger cities, warmly appreciate the unwonted freedom which our open shelves give them."

"A good librarian, who knows how to advise without being obtrusive."

American Library Association.

President: W: H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

Secretary: Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

Treasurer: G: W. Cole, 473 Jersey Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

EIGHTEENTH CONFERENCE, CLEVELAND,
SEPTEMBER 1-8, 1896.

FIRST DAY.

ON Tuesday, September 1, the 18th Conference of the American Library Association was opened in the Hollenden Hotel, in Cleveland, Ohio. The first day of the convention was, however, but half a day, as the majority of the delegates did not arrive until Tuesday noon. No formal sessions were, therefore, included, the day's program consisting of a general inspection of Cleveland libraries in the afternoon and a social session and exhibit of library appliances in the evening. The Cleveland Public Library was the goal of most of the visitors, and during the entire afternoon it was the scene of an animated and interesting library congress. It was attractively decorated with flags, bunting, potted plants, and cut flowers, afternoon lemonade was served in the cataloging-room on the third floor, and the welcome extended to the A. L. A. by the entire library force was so full of cordial good-will that the visitors realized still more strongly the kinship of common aims and methods that is inspired and strengthened afresh each year by these library gatherings. The various departments of the library and its methods of administration were explained and discussed, especially the "free access" system which is here adopted in entirety. This was of general interest, and the arrangement of the shelving, the grouping of the various divisions, and the practice of placing in each division the card catalog of that class were subjects of much comment and inquiry. The Case Library was also visited by many, who found pleasure in inspecting its beautiful building and interesting collections; and others were welcomed by Mr. Neff at the library of the Western Reserve Historical Society.

The evening's session was held in the parlors of the Hollenden. It was entirely informal, being simply a social reception for the renewal of old and the formation of new acquaintance, and it began as a sprinkling, increased to a crowd, and ended in a multitude. The three parlors in which the reception was held were also used for the library exhibit, which was the largest displayed at any previous A. L. A. meeting, excepting, of course, the World's Fair exhibit. It consisted of examples of L. B., Snead, Stikeman, Westervelt, and other shelving; the "model libraries" of Charles Scribner's Sons; the cabinets, publications, and library appliances of the Library Bureau; representative collections of the publications and importations of Appleton, Putnam, McClurg, Stechert, Lemcke & Buechner, the LIBRARY

JOURNAL, and other publishers; a travelling library, with its fittings, blanks, and samples, from the New York State Library; an interesting collection of souvenirs of previous meetings, specimens of library blanks, mounted pictures from other libraries, etc., etc. A reception committee welcomed the members, who were then requested to register their names on a beautifully engrossed parchment record for the library of the Western Reserve Historical Society, the ceremony being presided over by Mr. Neff, the librarian of the society. Light refreshments were served, and from nine o'clock till midnight the rooms were crowded with members, eager to meet old friends, to make new ones, and to talk "shop" without end.

SECOND DAY.

The session of Wednesday morning was the real beginning of the Conference. It was held in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce, and was opened at nine a.m. by President Dana, who briefly greeted the association and then proceeded to deliver his address.

Mr. Dana had chosen for his subject "The other side," and he presented with terse directness the arguments *contra* the public library and the ways in which they could be met. There are few libraries that are not open to some of the charges set against them. The purposeless pettiness of the great mass of popular reading, the lack of aim or effort in many of the frequenters of the public library, the triviality of much of its educational work, are all counts in the indictment. So too are the facts that the library relieves the idle and incompetent from the necessity of going to work to earn money for books, that it checks the tendency toward book-collecting, and that it tends to lead parents to become indifferent to their children's reading, "just as the free public school may lead them to be indifferent to their formal education." It is well to know the case against the library, that more effort may be made to justify the library calling, and to make the library itself of more use in the world. To do this, the librarian must realize that the library is good only as he makes it so, that he himself is of no importance in his community by virtue of his office alone, and that he had best divest himself of all the trappings of self-satisfaction and awaken to a sense of sins of omission, of things undone or ill done. Let the librarian, then, who would make the charges of the other side void and of no effect look first to his own personal growth and beware of the narrowing effects of too much books; let him be social; let him be outspoken on subjects of library management; let him support, work with, and advertise the A. L. A.; let him get in touch with the library section of the N. E. A. and enlist the teachers in the service of the library; let him win the support of the local book and news dealer, and encourage the ownership of books; let him interest in his library local book-lovers, students, scholars, and men of affairs; let him recognize and aid in all ways possible the clubs, associations, and societies of his town, clergymen, editors, and even the Sunday-school libra-

ries; let him make his own library part of the life of his community, and let him also be quick to recognize his fellow-workers, and to extend all aid and support to other libraries. An appreciation of these methods and those that will branch out and develop from them is essential if the library profession is to reach its true standard of usefulness and the library to be an effective educational machine.

Mr. J. N. Larned, of the Buffalo Library, followed with a paper on "Prospect and retrospect in the closing years of the century." This was beyond question the event of the Conference, and it was a fitting sequel to President Larned's address at the Lake Placid meeting two years before.

The paper was, in substance, an attempt to forecast the judgment which philosophical historians of the future will pronounce upon this closing period of the present century. Briefly outlined, their conclusion, Mr. Larned thought, would be this: that the dominant processes of civilization in modern times are such as tend steadily to what might be called a widening of life, in the two directions of knowledge and of material condition, without an equivalent spiritual deepening, and that within the last half century we have experienced a prodigious acceleration of those processes, with a peculiarly shallow and flattened culture as its inevitable result. The widening of life for the modern man appeared first and most importantly on the lines of trade; and until recent times trade carried much more than commodities to and fro. Ideas, institutions, customs, languages, manners, knowledge of all sorts, were in the cargoes which went and came between strange countries and peoples. The merchant was invested with a high and grave dignity, as a teacher, an explorer, and a hero of bold adventure. But to-day there is sheer nakedness for the mercenary motives of trade, and it has been vulgarized by the rapid change which steam and electricity have brought about. The same causes, of quick and easy communication, have suddenly converted the democracy of free countries from a theoretical state of society, which it was until our own day, into a positive and practical reality. For the first time in human history, public opinion has become an actually controlling, continuous force in wide arenas of government. It is eating like an acid into the old political parties, and throughout society it is dissolving the ancient stabilities, preparing, no doubt, the organic conditions on which Nature in all her working appears to depend for the evolution of life. But our lot is cast in the transition stage, at which we lose the fixities that were, before the coming of the harmonies that will be. In another direction still we are equally unfortunate. The press, which brought to human life the greatest widening of all, has become a vulgarizing power of frightful menace. The newspaper, which ought to be the most potent of all agencies of education — and which, as such, ought to be endowed as colleges are endowed — is commonly the busy pander to low tastes and a shallow curiosity. The irrespon-

sible reporter has superseded the responsible editor in most of the journalism of the day, becoming the teacher of his generation and the presiding genius of our civilization, infecting all literature and art with his own flippancy. But this is not the end of the story. The mind of the age is being trained to alertness, even by its worst journalism and its fiercest commerce, and faculties are being awakened that will some day answer the call to higher uses. At the same time, the altruistic spirit, which resists and restrains the mercenary, is more and more abroad. There is an enterprise in education as well as in industrial affairs. Invention, which used to be busy with machines alone, is now turning to schools and libraries. For the past 20 or 30 years, one set of people has been working on the free school and the free library; just as another set of people has been working on the steam-engine and the electric dynamo, to discover their capabilities and develop their powers. Hope for the future depends more upon them than upon any other agencies that work for the deepening of the currents of life.

The paper was listened to with intense interest; it set before the Conference a lofty standard, and its earnestness and depth of purpose awakened a responsive enthusiasm.

The Association was then cordially greeted by Mr. Uley, who tendered an invitation to Detroit for a part of the post-conference trip.

"The new Congressional Library building" was the subject of an interesting paper by Bernard R. Green, in charge of the construction of that building. It was illustrated by a large wall plan and by blue-print views, which were handed about among the audience. Mr. Green traced the history of the library from its organization, and described the various efforts made to obtain the new building. The need was set forth by Mr. Spofford in his report for 1872, but it was not until 1886 that the first act was passed, in which no limit as to time and no directions as to method of construction were included. This act was modified and improved, and in October, 1888, Gen. Casey took charge of the work and pushed it vigorously forward. The building covers three and three-quarter acres, and will be absolutely completed next winter, all the work except the decoration and final touches being now done. Mr. Green described in detail the plan of the building, the method of lighting, stack, delivery, and reference arrangements, and the general method in which it is proposed to arrange the books.

F. A. Crandall, Superintendent of documents, followed with an address on "Public documents and the proposed new public documents bill," which was, he said, "an informal report of the first year's doings of the public document office." During the 12 months from July 1, 1895, to June 30, 1896, a total of about 490,000 publications were received and handled by the department, and 189,463 volumes were distributed, of which 171,186 were sent to depository and other libraries. The methods and regulations as to the distribution of publications were set forth fully by Mr. Crandall, who also

described the various catalogs, required by the law of 1895. These comprise (1) the annual catalog of public documents, or "comprehensive index," as it is called in the law, which catalogs all documents of the 53d Congress and up to the close of the fiscal year 1895; (2) the "consolidated index," which will take the place of the various and varied so-called indexes that have since the 30th Congress appeared in the front of the volumes of Congressional documents, and will be practically a finding list of Congressional documents only; and (3) the monthly catalog of public documents, of which 18 numbers, aggregating 702 pages, had been issued to the close of the fiscal year. He believed that the department would succeed in producing a catalog that should be intelligible not only to librarians, but to the general public, and that the indexes and catalogs provided for would be found more convenient and available than any previous work of the kind on public documents. The provisions of the new bill to improve the printing and binding of public documents were briefly outlined; it was prepared "to establish by law a few broad general principles, recognized by librarians and publishers as sound, and to which no publishing bureau would have much difficulty in conforming." In support of the bill letters were received from librarians of 26 states, and it commanded the general support of all parties interested. Although another lobbying campaign will be necessary, there is little doubt of the passage of the bill at the next session.

Mr. Bowker then announced that as the report of the public documents committee related to the subjects treated by both Mr. Green and Mr. Crandall, he would present it as a fitting sequence to their remarks, instead of in the place assigned in the program. As the report had been duly printed in the "Preliminary papers," it was not read, but simply presented to the Association; but the resolutions appended to the report were read over and presented for action. Four resolutions: (1) approving the supplementary public documents bill; (2) extending the thanks of the Association to Hon. George D. Perkins, of Iowa, for his efforts in behalf of the bill; (3) approving the separate organization of the Copyright office, as distinct from the Library of Congress; and (4) voicing the regret of the Association that politics should still at times prevail in library affairs, were unanimously carried. A resolution was also presented authorizing the appointment of a committee of seven to represent the A. L. A. in relation to the organization of the national library in its new building. This was opposed by Dr. Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution, and was laid over till the afternoon session.

The afternoon session opened at 2:30 in the Army and Navy Hall, nearly opposite the Hollenden Hotel, where seats in plenty were found for the 300 or more persons present. The first business taken up was the resolution previously offered by Mr. Bowker as to appointing an A. L. A. committee to confer with the House and Senate committee on library as to the or-

ganization of the Congressional Library. Mr. Bowker spoke briefly in support and explanation of the resolution. He was followed by Dr. Adler, who opposed it on the ground that no definite reorganization of the library had been or was to be planned and that action had better be deferred until the committee on library should apply to the A. L. A. for definite consultation or advice. On motion of Mr. Jones the matter was laid on the table.

Mr. George Iles then read a paper on "The appraisal of literature," in which he explained his scheme for the critical "evaluation" of books, presented in part at the Lakewood (1892) conference, and practically illustrated in the "List of books for girls and women" published last year. He compared the modern library to the old-fashioned museum, where specimens were displayed without full and clear descriptive labels. Such labels he would have adopted in libraries, in the form of brief critical notes, emanating from authoritative knowledge, appended to the author or subject entry on the card catalog. He announced that the annotated list of books on "Music," contributed by H. E. Krebbiel to the "List of books for girls and women" would be issued this winter, enlarged to 270 titles, and that Mr. Sturgis's list of books on Fine arts would be similarly issued, expanded to 550 titles. This work of literary appraisal could hardly be carried on without a subsidy, and contributions in its aid would be gladly received, but offers of time, money, or manuscript should be fully subject to the direction of an A. L. A. editorial committee, which, it was hoped, might carry on the work in partnership with some leading publisher.

Commenting on Mr. Iles's paper, Mr. S. S. Green said that in the Essex Institute the specimens displayed bore labels referring to the books in the public library for fuller information. Miss West asked if the copyright on the "List of books for girls and women" would interfere with the use on catalog cards of the notes there given. Mr. Iles replied that such use might be freely made and he would be very glad if the "List" should prove helpful in that way.

The report of the executive board was then read by Secretary Elmendorf, who presented the resolutions adopted at the board meeting on Sept. 1. In regard to the library handbook known as the "A. L. A. Primer," it was resolved that it be published in book form to contain matter equivalent to, but not exceeding, 24 pages, LIBRARY JOURNAL size, that it be revised by a committee to be appointed by the incoming executive board, be published by the Publishing Section, and be called "A library primer." These resolutions were adopted and an additional one suggesting a list price of 25 c. and an edition of 1000 copies for free distribution was also adopted as a recommendation to the executive board. The subject of the European post-conference trip of 1897 was then presented in a resolution accepting the invitation of the L. A. U. K. to attend an international meeting in July, 1897. Mr. Bowker moved that the reso-

lution be amended, deferring action until a meeting of those intending to go abroad could be had; but, after some discussion, it was decided that the secretary should cable a message of acceptance to Mr. MacAlister, of the L. A. U. K., and further details be referred to a committee to be appointed by the executive board.

The treasurer's report, as printed in the preliminary papers, was presented by Mr. Anderson, with a supplement to Sept. 1, accepted, and referred to the finance committee for audit. It showed expenditures of \$897.42 and a balance in the treasury of \$1558.14. During the year 121 new members were added to the list, 20 resigned, and 512 had paid dues. The necrology included three members: Miss Bessie Rutherford Macky, of the library department of Drexel Institute, Miss Jessie Allan of the Omaha Public Library, and Robert C. Woodward, of the Springfield (Ohio) Free [Warder] Library.

The report on gifts and bequests was next presented, but as it had been printed in the "Preliminary papers" Miss Hewins simply noted additions and corrections that she had been unable to include in the printed paper. The report covered two years and showed that within the period June, 1894, to June, 1896, nearly \$2,500,000 in money have been given to libraries, library buildings worth nearly \$1,000,000 have been erected, and more than 100,000 volumes have been added to libraries by gifts and bequests.

Mr. Larned announced that the report of the committee on library schools had already been presented to the Association in the pages of the preliminary papers, and that there was nothing to add. The report, as printed, was an interesting review of the plan and course of study carried on, respectively, at the New York State Library, Pratt, Armour, and Drexel institutes, and the summer courses at Albany, Amherst, and Madison, Wis. Of all the schools it was reported that the past year had been the most satisfactory, "giving encouragement in all of them to larger undertakings and plans of future work."

The report of the Publishing Section was read by Mr. Lane, who gave a full and most interesting summary of the work accomplished during the year, and the many plans for the future. The most important change contemplated is the abandonment of the feature of annual membership subscriptions to the section and the organization of the Publishing Section as a board of five members, appointed by the association, "to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographies and library aids as it may approve." Among the plans to be considered by the section is the publication of an index to portraits, compiled by Bunford Samuel, of the Ridgway Library, of Philadelphia, the editorial preparation of the printed catalog cards, transferred from the Library Bureau to the office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, and the publication of the "Lists of select fiction" which the Massachusetts Library Club will cease issuing when the 12 numbers are completed. These,

it is hoped, may be continued by other library clubs, in sequence. Since the previous report the section has issued the "List of books for girls and women," compiled by George Iles and Mrs. A. H. Leyboldt, and the "A. L. A. List of subject headings." A supplement to Sargent's "Reading for the young," by Mary E. and Abby L. Sargent, is now in press and will be published for the section by the Library Bureau, at 75 c. and \$1 per copy.

The report of the Co-operation committee, as printed in the "Preliminary papers," was presented by Mr. Tillinghast and accepted. It outlined the history of the committee, now in its 20th year of service, and rehearsed the good the A. L. A. had effected in the three phases of co-operative work which the library field permits — neighborhood, general, and international co-operation. Under the first head comes mutual help and intercourse between individual libraries, by the exchange of duplicates, the prevention of mutual duplication, the lending and borrowing of books, etc. The second phase is illustrated by co-operative work useful to all libraries, such as Poole's Index and its continuations, the A. L. A. Index, the A. L. A. Catalog, the "List of books for girls and women," and the other work of the Publishing Section, the Massachusetts Library Club lists, etc. The third method of co-operation — the international — has found illustration in the recent conference held in London under the auspices of the Royal Society, to arrange a plan for the publication of a general international catalog of current scientific literature. (See L. J., August, p. 370.)

A paper on "The congress of women librarians at Atlanta," by Miss Alice M. Kroeger, was next on the program, but in Miss Kroeger's absence it was omitted, and after a few announcements as to local arrangements the meeting adjourned.

Wednesday evening was devoted to a reception tendered to the A. L. A. by the Rowfant Club, and held in the old-fashioned clubhouse on Prospect street. The rooms were attractively decorated with flowers, refreshments were served, and until midnight the club-house was thronged with interested librarians, meeting new and old friends and examining the club's many treasures of books, etchings, and candlesticks. The club takes its name from the country-seat of the late Frederic Locker Lampson, who is its patron saint, and its object is "the critical study of books in their various capacities to please the mind of man, and the publication from time to time of privately printed editions for its members." Its emblems are the American gopher and the candlestick, and it possesses a varied and interesting candlestick collection, ranging from tiny bronze or silver holders to great six-foot columns for pillars of wax. The annual meeting of the club is held on Candlemas day, when each member adds a candlestick to the array which now ranges from roof to attic of the club-house.

THIRD DAY.

The first matter taken up at the session of Thursday morning was the announcement of the committee on the European trip. It was composed of Miss M. S. Cutler, Miss M. W. Plummer, S: S. Green, W: C. Lane, and W: I. Fletcher, and all who hoped or expected to join the party were asked to meet after the morning's session. A modified resolution on the Congressional Library, drawn by Mr. Putnam, of Boston, was submitted. It provided that should the Senate and House committee on library desire the advice of the A. L. A. in regard to the national library, the president of the Association be empowered to appoint a committee to confer on that subject. This resolution was reported as satisfactory to both Mr. Bowker and Dr. Adler, and was promptly adopted.

Mr. Thomson, of Philadelphia, then presented his paper on "Travelling libraries," a subject to which he has given much attention, and which the Free Library of Philadelphia is promoting especially in relation to library development in the city field. Most of the travelling library work has heretofore been done in New York, Wisconsin, and elsewhere in the scattered rural communities; but there is no reason why it should not find equal scope for usefulness in the manufacturing or tenement districts of the larger cities. The states in which the travelling-library system in some form is recognized by law are New York, Michigan, Montana, Minnesota, and Iowa; in Wisconsin most effective work has been done by the State Library Commission through the generous aid of Senator J. H. Stout; in Massachusetts a series of small travelling libraries was started in 1895 in connection with the Woman's Education Association of Boston, and in Pennsylvania an effort is to be made at the next legislative meeting to obtain an appropriation for the development of the system throughout the state. There was brief discussion of Mr. Thomson's paper by F. A. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin State Library Commission, who described the libraries of 50 books sent out to the rural districts of Wisconsin; Miss Ambrose, of Northwestern University Library; Mrs. Cope, of the Iowa State Library; and Senator Stout, who thought a state commission was first necessary to secure the most effective and systematic work.

Mr. Crunden presented a report on the Poole memorial fund. The committee in charge of that fund desire to obtain, as the most suitable memorial, a bronze bust of Dr. Poole, with appropriate pedestal; this will cost about \$500, of which but \$150 had so far been subscribed. All desiring to contribute to the fund were urged to do so before the close of the Conference. Mr. Fletcher and Miss Ahern spoke briefly of Dr. Poole's services to and claims upon the library profession.

"Exhibitions of engravings and pictures" was the subject of short ten-minute talks by Mr. Cutter, of Northampton, and Mr. Green, of Worcester. At Northampton exhibitions of

the Sella collection of Alpine photographs had proved most interesting; these were obtained from the Appalachian Club, of Boston, which was glad to arrange for exhibitions wherever desired. Local amateurs, also, were usually pleased to exhibit collections of photographs, and by such arrangement it had been found possible to have interesting exhibits of views of Kimberley, Siam, and other out-of-the-way corners of the world. Those members of the A. L. A. who brought kodaks on the post-conference trips might, on their return, arrange for their libraries public exhibitions of the photographs made. At Worcester Mr. Green had displayed photographic and other collections for many years, and in his new building the upper story was arranged to be thrown into an art gallery when desired; about \$1000 a year is spent there on collections of photographs, engravings, and fine illustrated books, and the exhibitions have included, besides these, displays of Sevres china, representations of the textile fabrics in the South Kensington Museum, illustrations of the history of architecture, of modern English, French, and Spanish art, etc. The hints and suggestions offered by both Mr. Cutter and Mr. Green were as practical as they were interesting; but there was no time for discussion, as the joint meeting of the A. L. A. and the Trustees Section was next in order.

The Trustees Section meeting had been looked forward to a little apprehensively, as likely to be dull. On the contrary, it was one of the most interesting meetings of the Conference, and its results cannot fail to be helpful in many libraries. It was not until 1890 that any special effort was made to insure the attendance of trustees at the A. L. A. gatherings; then circulars were sent out and the Trustees Section formed, but it had been more or less dormant since the Lakewood Conference. For the present Conference vigorous efforts were made to get trustees to attend, and the results were most gratifying. In the list of delegates 16 trustees were recorded as present, but this was undoubtedly considerably below the real number. Mr. Crunden presided during the section meeting, which he opened with a practical, clear-headed, and entertaining paper on the relation of the librarian to the trustees, speaking from the librarian's point of view. The conclusion of this paper was the signal for general discussion of the various details of a trustee's duty in regard to library and librarian. Dr. Hosmer, of Minneapolis, who introduced himself as a bibliographical pupil of Mr. Crunden's, who had evolved from the grub condition of a trustee into the beautiful librarian butterfly, raised the question of the advisability of having women on the board of trustees. This seemed generally approved and frequently practised, though Miss Kelso proved that there might be too much of a good thing, when she cited the case of a librarian of her acquaintance, whose library of 150 volumes was directed by a board of 60 "lady trustees." Among the trustees who took part in the discussion were Col. Thomson, of the Evanston (Ill.) Free Library; Rutherford P. Hayes, of Columbus, O.;

Mr. Garfield, of Mentor, O., who described the organization of the Mentor Library; Mrs. H. M. Weeks, of the Winnetka (Ill.) Public Library; Mr. Soule, of Brookline; Mr. Johnson, of the Newark (N. J.) Public Library; and Mr. Macbeth, of the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library. Mr. Crunden read suggestive letters on several phases of the subject that he had received from trustees and others interested, and the joint meeting adjourned after the adoption of a resolution recommending the publication and distribution among trustees of Mr. Crunden's paper, with the letters received by him on the subject and an abstract of the meeting.

Thursday afternoon was to have been given up to a trolley-ride about the city, under charge of the local committee, but lowering skies and an intermittent drizzle boded ill for an outing, so the trolley party was deferred until Friday afternoon, and at 2 p.m. on Thursday the members assembled again in Army and Navy Hall, prepared to catch up on the left-over papers of Thursday morning, and pass on to the Friday morning section of the program. When the meeting was called to order Miss Kelso offered a resolution, which was at once adopted, that the A. L. A. present to the Rowfant Club an A. L. A. candlestick, to be added to the club collection, in appreciation of the warm welcome and hospitalities accorded to the association by the club.

Miss Stearns, of Milwaukee, then presented the subject of "Advertising a library" in one of the notable papers of the Conference. Taking as her motto the phrase "Advertising is business bait," she showed the many effective ways in which a library can draw readers within its doors by advertisements, book-lists, library items and notes in the local newspapers, special lists on current topics for general distribution, library placards for hotels, depots, and public places, the use of posters in delivery and periodical rooms, library talks before schools, clubs, and local associations. The paper was illustrated by examples of library lists, placards, and posters from Denver, Groversville, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Grand Rapids, Milwaukee, and elsewhere, mounted and hung about the platform, and the speaker's enthusiasm in her subject could hardly fail to awaken a responsive interest in the mind of even the most conservative "sufficient-unto-the-day-is-the-circulation-thereof" librarian.

The next paper in order was on "Library editions of popular fiction," by Mr. Dudley, of Denver. In Mr. Dudley's absence this was, perforce, passed over, but the subject was presented by the president for discussion, and a resolution was adopted ordering the executive board to appoint a committee to investigate the matter. Mr. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin Library Commission, had had much trouble with poorly bound books that fall to pieces when handled, and he warned librarians against buying from bargain counters. He had succeeded in obtaining from Houghton, Mifflin & Co. a special library edition of "The Birds' Christmas Carol," and he had hopes of procuring a similar edition of "Betty Leicester." Mr. Peck said a word

in praise of the bindings of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., and Mr. Eastman spoke in condemnation of the cheap editions of the department stores.

The "Do's" collected from librarians all over the country were next presented by Miss Chandler, of Buffalo. These were, in a measure, a sequel to the "Don'ts" of the Lake Placid conference; and they proved a capital feature of the meeting. It was interesting testimony to the breadth and variety of library interests that these two collections should so seldom duplicate each other, and should cover so many phases of the same subject so interestingly and so variously. The list of things to "do" ranged from technical details of cataloging to general ethical advice, and abounded with helpful suggestions.

Next, according to the program, was a period "devoted especially to matters of interest to young and inexperienced librarians." Mr. Fletcher, who was called upon to preside, perhaps described it better as a "library circus," of which he was ringmaster. The performers assembled on the platform and presented the subjects assigned to them in due order, holding themselves ready to answer any questions that might be asked. Mr. Cutter first gave a few minutes' talk on "Library furniture, fixtures, and appliances," in which he emphasized the need of freedom and ease in library administration, and spoke of the charging system devised by Miss Browne, of the Library Bureau, and of the Rudolph Indexer books. Miss Hewins, of Hartford, followed on the subject of "Old and new books—what to buy," urging the claims of the older books, as well as of the "latest literature." Miss James, of Wilkes-Barré, spoke on "Reading-rooms and periodicals," and explained the principles that guided her in her selection of periodicals and magazines. The question of the advisability of including "comic" papers was raised, and the consensus of opinion seemed to be rather against *Puck* and *Judge*, though *Life* was generally admitted. Mr. Fletcher described his methods of "Accessioning, classifying, and cataloging" clearly and briefly. Mr. Green spoke on "Reference books and reference work," and Miss Garland, of Dover, set forth pithily and wittily the essentials of "The librarian's annual report." Mr. Hill's contribution on "Preparing books for issue, and charging systems," was, in his absence, postponed till Friday.

The report of the finance committee was then presented by Mr. Whitney and accepted, and the meeting adjourned until 8 p.m.

The session of Thursday evening was thoroughly novel. For three hours, from eight till 11, the books listed in the A. L. A. Catalog supplement were the subject of animated *pro* and *con* discussion by the members. This *viva voce* criticism of individual books was a new feature in an A. L. A. program, having its inception in the preliminary discussion of the proposed supplement at the last (Lake George) session of the Lake Placid conference. The idea was developed by Miss Cutler, with a view to giving an object-lesson in criticism and selec-

tion of books, which might prove suggestive, especially to young librarians, and the result justified her expectations. Miss Cutler presented the report of the committee on A. L. A. Catalog supplement, and briefly outlined the procedure of the evening. The subject was then introduced by Mr. Cutter, and different persons were called upon to present, for discussion, different divisions of the catalog. Each member was provided with a copy of the advance sheets of the supplement and was urged to bring forward for criticism any desired book in the classes considered. Science was one of the first divisions taken up, and here Mr. Montgomery, of Philadelphia, played the part of "devil's advocate" on the books listed. "Popular" works on science, as Flammarton's "Popular astronomy," were concisely criticised and their shortcomings set forth, and book after book was subjected to a lively cross-fire of analysis and criticism. Sociology was under charge of Mr. Crunden, and Mr. Jones was arbiter on Useful arts. Especially interesting was the department of "History," where, under Mr. Thwaites's energetic generalship, the historical literature of the past five years was brought forth for judgment by merit. Jameson's "Dictionary of U. S. history" and Fiske's "History of the U. S. for schools" were weighed and found wanting, and Mrs. Latimer's summaries of 19th century history hardly escaped. Miss Hewins was the fitting champion of children's books, and she made a delightful plea for Gertrude Smith's "Arabella and Araminta stories," which she thought well suited for the very small folks. Among the books she approved were Baldwin's "Horse fair," the "Jungle books," Kirk Munroe's stories, and the Henty books. Henty was for a time the centre of a vigorous cross-fire, but he emerged unscathed. Indeed the subject of children's books roused suggestive discussion between those who found the usual juvenile literature desirable and those who would give to children only the best books of the world. Fiction, under Mr. Larned's direction, naturally offered a wide arena for diverging views, and there was no lack of entertainment as the notable novels of the period were brought forward for judgment. First to meet her fate was "A lady of quality," who, though she found some special pleaders, was on a show of hands relegated to the darkest of library limbos. "Theron Ware," too, found an adverse majority, with Mr. Wing as special prosecutor, despite a ringing plea in his behalf by Mr. Jones, of Salem, and Morrison's "Tales of mean streets" had hardly a favoring vote. It is impossible in a brief abstract to give an adequate idea of the novelty, interest, and animation that characterized this session; certainly it reflected much credit on Miss Cutler and those of the catalog committee who were responsible for it. It was after 11 when the meeting adjourned. In a few minutes the hall was cleared for dancing, and the members, who had had much more than a solid "eight hours for work," prepared themselves for an hour or so of frivolity, to serve as a fitting "nightcap" to a busy day.

FOURTH DAY.

Friday morning's session opened with an undiminished attendance. The first matter presented was a resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee to investigate the present system of travelling libraries and report on its possible extension. It was adopted. President Dana then briefly alluded to the proposition to establish an American libraries' clearing-house, set forth by Adolf Hepner, of St. Louis, in the September issue of *Public Libraries*. A resolution was adopted authorizing the executive board to appoint a committee of three to investigate and report on the matter.

Mr. Burtch, of the library department of A. C. McClurg & Co., read a paper on "The relation of the bookseller to the librarian." It was almost wholly from the point of view of the bookseller, and urged the advantage that would accrue to the trade by the more general adoption of library methods of accessioning, cataloging, and arranging stock. On the conclusion of the paper a resolution was adopted authorizing the executive board to appoint a committee to consider measures for bringing booksellers more into touch with library methods.

A resolution was adopted providing for the continuation of the committee on A. L. A. Catalog supplement.

Mr. Hill was then called on to present his paper on "Preparing books for issue, and charging systems." He said that the one chief object of all charging systems was to relieve the borrower of all possible trouble and delay, and described the methods in use at the Newark Library. There was a short discussion of various systems and on the different ways of recording and collecting fines.

Then occurred what was probably the most significant incident of the Conference. The question of open shelves was raised, in connection with Mr. Hill's paper, and a vote on the subject was asked for. There were present probably 300 members—the average attendance at every session. First, all those having open shelves or allowing as far as possible free access to books, other than reference, were asked to rise, the vote being limited, of course, to but one person from each library. The count showed a total of 65. Second, all present who approved of free access and who would have open shelves in their libraries were it practicable to do so, were asked to rise; and in a moment it seemed as if the entire assembly rose as one man. No count was necessary. Third, all those who were unwilling to allow free access and disapproved of open shelves were requested to rise; 12 only were counted. Such an expression of opinion as this vote showed would have been unobtainable even three years ago, and nothing in the Conference was more characteristic of the constantly broadening tendency of library methods.

A report of the committee on the European trip was then presented by Mr. Lane. It was voted that an enrolment fee of \$5 be paid in advance by all desiring to join the party, said fee to

be non-returnable and to constitute an expense fund; any balance remaining in the fund at the close of the trip to be paid into the endowment fund of the Association. It was also voted that only members of the A. L. A. and members of their families should be enrolled, except by unanimous vote of the European trip committee.

Dr. Cyrus Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution, then presented a paper on "Fifty years of progress," reviewing the history of the Smithsonian Institution and the work accomplished by it since its organization in 1846 to the present time. As the jubilee anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution occurred on August 10, 1896, Dr. Adler's paper was especially timely, and his summary of what had been done in the cause of science in a single institution during that half century was most interesting. He spoke particularly of the part played by the Smithsonian Institution in library development, and paid an earnest tribute to its first librarian, Charles Coffin Jewett, one of the pioneers in the American library field, who in 1841 published one of the first pamphlets on charging methods. During the 50 years of its existence the Smithsonian has published 225 volumes, with a total of 800,000 pages on matters connected with science. By means of the system of exchange, which was devised and perfected largely through its efforts, its publications have gone broadcast to the libraries of this and foreign countries, and the value of the volumes distributed by it in this way is estimated at \$1,000,000, or almost twice the original gift of James Smithson.

At the close of Dr. Adler's paper, invitations to the A. L. A. to hold the meeting of 1898 in Atlanta, Ga., and in New York City, were presented by Mr. Nelson, while Mr. Dana presented invitations for the same year from Lincoln, Neb., Indianapolis, and Montreal.

Mr. Crunden then presented a report of the committee on resolutions, extending the thanks of the A. L. A. "to the Rowfant Club for its unique entertainment; to Mr. Charles F. Olney for his hospitable welcome to his art gallery; to the local committee of arrangements for careful forethought, efficient service, and numerous courtesies; and to the Cleveland newspapers for the full and accurate reports of the proceedings which they have given in their columns." It was carried. On motion of Mr. Carr a resolution was passed acknowledging the indebtedness of the library profession to Mr. W. H. Brett for his "Cumulative index to periodicals," which promised to be so important and helpful an addition to library tools.

It was then announced that the balloting for officers would be conducted on the Australian plan as the members left the hall, and the meeting was declared adjourned. It was, however, succeeded by a photographic session in the doorway of the hall, where the party was photographed by F. R. Stoll, in the group reproduced as frontispiece to this issue.*

Meetings of the various sections and library

associations followed. Of the latter Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Wisconsin were represented, and held satisfactory sessions.

Friday afternoon was devoted to the trolley-ride. Cars were in waiting at the Public Square, and under the efficient guidance of the local committee the members spent the time from 2 to 6 in whirling through the many fine streets and avenues of the Forest City, visiting Western Reserve University, where the new Hatch library was inspected and admired, being personally conducted by cordial hosts through the Woodland Avenue and Miles Park branches of the Cleveland Public Library, and passing a pleasant hour in the art gallery of Mr. C. F. Olney.

The annual dinner was the event of Friday night. It was preceded by a general reception in the parlors of the Hollenden, and it was not until nearly nine o'clock that the members seated themselves in the large dining-hall of the Hollenden at tables which were beautiful with masses of cut flowers and potted plants.

The post-prandial period was opened with the announcement of the result of the morning's election. The officers of the A. L. A. for 1896-7 were given as follows: *President*, W. H. Brett; *Secretary*, Rutherford P. Hayes; *Treasurer*, George Watson Cole; *Vice-presidents*, H. L. Elmendorf, James K. Hosmer, Hannah P. James; *A. L. A. Council*, Mary W. Plummer, Henry J. Carr, S. S. Green, Melvil Dewey; *Trustee of Endowment Fund*, J. C. Hutchins.

Judge Hutchins, of Cleveland, presiding at the dinner, then presented to Mr. Brett, on behalf of his friends and well-wishers in Cleveland, a beautiful basket of roses. The time for speech-making was necessarily brief, as the post-conference party was obliged to leave by 11:30, and but three speakers were called upon — Dr. Thwing, president of Western Reserve University, Mr. Thwaites, and Rev. Dr. Sprecker, of Cleveland. There were then but a few minutes for hasty farewells, and by midnight the Conference was separated into two parties, those whose A. L. A. outing was over and those bound for the steamer and the post-conference.

POST-CONFERENCE.

Of the post-conference trip it is impossible, within present limits, to speak adequately. Only the briefest outline of the itinerary can be given, and for a fuller account reference must be made to the printed proceedings. Leaving Cleveland at midnight on Friday, the party reached Detroit for breakfast. Here they spent part of the morning examining the public library, where they found a most cordial welcome. At 11 o'clock carriages and 'busses were in readiness at the library, and a triumphal procession set forth for a two hours' drive through wide well-paved streets, lined with attractive homes and rendered beautiful by an abundance of trees, past the business and residence districts, out to Belle Isle, the most delightful of island parks. The drive around the park terminated at the Casino, where lunch was waiting; but it did not wait long. Then came the trip, on foot or by carriage, to the

*Copies of this photograph may be had at \$1 each, by applying to F. R. Stoll, photographer, 106 Euclid avenue, Cleveland, O.

wharf, where the steamer bore the crowd across Lake St. Clair, through the Flats—Miss Litchfield's "Little Venice"—to the Grande Pointe Club-house, where they were made right welcome. After dinner, speech-making—the left-overs, it was said, of Friday night—and dancing whiled away the time till the *City of Mackinaw* blew a warning whistle at 2:30 a.m. and the post-confererees hastened aboard and abed. Sunday on the steamer was a delight to those for whom the ocean wave had no terrors, and even the many who succumbed to the "whitecaps" of Saginaw Bay were on deck again by evening, pale but smiling and ready to go ashore at Alpena and "do" the town. Monday morning the greater number of the party remained on board to breakfast and visited St. Ignace, returning to Mackinaw at 8:30. Then after removing an upper layer of dust and thinking, perhaps, of rest, they separated into groups and couples to explore the island, by driving, walking, rowing, or cycling, as seemed best to each. Some went on at once to the "Soo," returning in time for Tuesday's final session, others took the trip to Les Cheneaux, barbarized into "the Snows," others still went by steamer to St. Ignace and then around the island; but to all Tuesday night came all too soon, and it was with regret at the morrow's departure that the party gathered in the parlors of the Grand Hotel, to attend the last session of the Conference.

This was fittingly devoted to "The story of Mackinaw," told by R. G. Thwaites, of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and his graphic narrative made the Jesuit "black-robe," the long-haired *voyageur*, and the enterprising fur-trader very real figures on the minds of the modern librarians invading and exploring their ancient haunts. The actual history of the island hardly begins until 1779, when Patrick Sinclair built there for his Majesty King George the old fort, which still stands and which was the scene of hostilities in the war of 1812. Captured by the British in a bloodless attack, July 17, 1812, it was restored to the United States by the treaty of Ghent, and remained the military stronghold of the district until the present year, when it was abandoned by the government and taken under the control of the state of Michigan as part of the state park. Mr. Thwaites's paper, in its incisiveness and accuracy of statement, cleared away much of the confusion that seems inseparable from the history of Mackinac, and made British landing, Fort Holmes, Fort Mackinac, the mission church, and the other guide-book landmarks places to be remembered for historic association as well as for beauties of sky, sea, and land.

Despite the cloud of approaching departure, the session was literally closed in sweetness. Miss Ahern, in a few appropriate words, presented to the retiring president an offering on behalf of the Association, which it was hoped might in a measure dispel the gloom that had seemed to mark him for its own from the first sentence of his opening address. It was a five-

pound box of Huyler's bonbons, and it may faithfully be recorded that it proved an effectual, if temporary, gloom-dispeller.

After the passage of a resolution expressing the hearty appreciation of the Association for the delightful reception accorded them at Detroit, the 18th conference of the American Librarian Association was declared adjourned.

A few words on the Conference as a whole may not be out of place. It has been said that the average attendance at the sessions was not less than 300. The official register showed a total attendance of 369 delegates, and the treasurer's report showed that the membership register of the association and the cash balance on hand were the largest in the history of the A. L. A. In point of attendance the Cleveland Conference ranks as the most successful ever held. There was no diminution of interest or of numbers observable at the sessions, and when it is seen—as this abstract attempts to show—how closely packed with business were the three days at Cleveland, this fact is a striking illustration of the energy and enthusiasm that librarians claim as distinguishing their profession. The post-conference trip was taken by about 80 persons, some of whom returned before the final session of September 8, a showing that compares well with that of previous years.

The Conference was a busy one—almost too busy for bodily comfort; but it was thoroughly successful, and those who felt its influence for good can say heartily and earnestly that time and strength were well spent in obtaining help and inspiration for the future. H E. H.

Library Association of the United Kingdom.

THE 19th annual meeting of the L. A. U. K. was held this year at Buxton, Eng., from Sept. 1-3. The meeting, which was largely attended, was opened on Tuesday morning, Sept. 1, by Mr. F. T. Barrett, who announced the election to the office of president of Alderman Henry Rawson, ex-chairman of the Manchester Public Libraries. President Rawson then took the chair. The program included papers on "The relation of public libraries to other educational institutions," "Days vs. issues, or reading as measured by time," the Dewey classification, notes on library legislation and municipal control of village libraries, and articles of specific bibliographical and antiquarian interest. The sessions were interesting and helpful and the meeting-place—a quiet and pleasant health resort—was an agreeable innovation on the usual custom of meeting in large and busy centres.

Full notes of the program and proceedings of the convention are not available as the JOURNAL goes to press, and the detailed report of the meeting is deferred until the October number.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE class in library economy in the Amherst Summer School, under the direction of W. I. Fletcher, the college librarian, closed its sixth annual session on August 8. The class numbered 36, most of the pupils being already engaged in library work. Despite the severe heat of July, which was oppressive even in delightful Amherst, the class worked on with unabated zeal and enthusiasm and with most satisfactory results. Following are the names of the members:

Mrs. Ella Bartholomew, Amherst, Mass.
 Prof. W. Bernhardt, Washington, D. C.
 W. S. Booth, New York City.
 Charlotte W. Briant, North Chelmsford, Mass.
 Mary E. Brown, Manchester, N. H.
 Margaret A. Bull, Orange, N. J.
 Jean W. Colesberry, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Louise Cook, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Genevieve S. Cooley, Amherst, Mass.
 Gertrude Crockett, New York City.
 Mary L. Dyer, Annapolis, Md.
 Abbie J. Fielden, Amesbury, Mass.
 Elizabeth S. French, Boston, "
 Isabel M. French, "
 Minnie E. Gibson, Youngstown, Ohio.
 Grace L. Hemenway, Waltham, Mass.
 Bessie A. Holt, Georgetown, "
 Hattie L. Johnson, Berlin, N. H.
 Hettie Joseph, Allegheny, Pa.
 Elizabeth Knapp, Sewickley, Pa.
 Mary E. Lane, Barre, Mass.
 Laura N. Mann, Washington, D. C.
 Franklin O. Poole, Somerville, Mass.
 Annie Prescott, Auburn Maine.
 Gracella Prince, Springfield O.
 Morris Salem, New York City.
 Augusta A. Sherman, Rockland, Me.
 Nellie F. Squier, Monson, Mass.
 Helen Sutliff, Lawrence, Kansas.
 Kate V. N. Talmage, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 L. J. Tompkins, New York City.
 Ethelyn D. M. Tucker, Lee, Mass.
 M. Hortense Webster, Easthampton, Mass.
 Harry S. Wedding, Crawfordsville, Ind.
 Annie R. White, Lexington, Va.
 Haidee Williamson, New York City.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

SUMMER SESSION.

List of Students.

Louise Leffingwell Bartlett, St. Johnsbury, Vt.
 Librarian St. Johnsbury Athenæum.
 Helen M. Blodgett, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Librarian Yonkers Public Library.
 Amalie Busck, New York City.
 Librarian New York State Pathological Institute, New York City.
 Emma Kirkland Clark, Peekskill, N. Y.
 Vassar College, 1874-75.
 Librarian Elmira College, Elmira, N. Y.

Belle Corwin, New York City.
 M.D. New York Medical College, 1891.
 General Assistant New York University Library.
 Jeannette Craven, Albany, N. Y.
 Assistant Sacred Heart Academy Library, Albany, N. Y.
 Alice Twiss Cummings, Hartford, Ct.
 Cataloger Hartford Public Library.
 Luella Clara Dowler, Jamestown, N. Y.
 First Assistant James Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown, N. Y.
 Mrs. Katherine Josepha Dowling, Rochester, N. Y.
 Librarian Central Library, Rochester, N. Y.
 Mary Eugenia Goodrich, New Britain, Ct.
 Librarian New Britain State Normal School Library.
 Leonora Epes Herron, Hampton, Va.
 B.A. Boston University, 1888.
 Librarian Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute.
 Anna Addams MacDonald, State College, Pa.
 Assistant Pennsylvania State College Library, State College, Pa.
 Anna Douglas McNeill, Albany, N. Y.
 Anna Battelle Miller, New York City.
 Assistant St. Agnes Free Library, New York City.
 Elmore Marsden Montfort, Marietta, Ohio.
 Hanover (Ind.) College.
 B.A. Marietta College, 1890.
 Librarian Marietta College.
 Margaret Farrington Newell, St. Johnsbury, Vt.
 Smith College, 1889-90.
 Librarian Talcott Library, Northfield (Mass.) Seminary.
 Sarah Bass Nichols, Calais, Me.
 Librarian Free Library, Calais, Me.
 George Edward Nutting, Fitchburg, Mass.
 First Assistant Fitchburg Public Library.
 Marie Onuf, New York City.
 Archivist New York State Pathological Institute, New York City.
 Clara Edith Staude, Troy, N. Y.
 Librarian Children's Neighborhood Library, Troy, N. Y.
 Elizabeth Day Swan, La Fayette, Ind.
 Iowa College, Grinnell, Ia., 1881-85.
 Librarian Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind.
 Ella Sites Wood, Lancaster, Mass.
 Librarian Town Library, Lancaster, Mass.

WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE second session of the Wisconsin Summer School of Library Science was made possible by the continued generosity of Senator J. H. Stout, of Menomonie, Wis. It was held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, from July 6 to August 14, under Miss Katharine L. Sharp, of Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, as director. Instruction in cataloging was given by Miss Margaret Mann, cataloger of Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, with Miss Alice S. Tyler, of the Cleveland (O.) Public

Library, and Miss Mary J. Calkins, of Chicago, as assistants.

The class numbered 25 persons from nine different states, only four of these students being without library experience.

The following schedule was carried out:

SCHEDULE.

Note-taking	1 lesson.
Accession and order.	7 lessons.
Shelf	3 "
Loan	2 "
Binding	1 lesson and 2 visits.
Repair	1 lesson.
Reference	13 lessons and 2 problems.
Library economy and history	10 lessons.
Cutter classification.	12 "
Dewey classification.	12 "
Cataloging	20 "

Visits and addresses were made by Hon. J. H. Stout, Menomonie, Wis.; F. A. Hutchins, president Wisconsin Free Library Commission; Miss Theresa West, librarian Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library; Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary Wisconsin Free Library Commission; Reuben G. Thwaites, secretary Wisconsin Historical Society.

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director.*

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

PINNEY, Alice E. Free town *vs.* district school libraries. (*In American Agriculturist*, Middle edition, Sept. 5. 58:210.) 1½ col.

A plea for the co-operation of rural districts in founding free town libraries. It shows the wastefulness of the district school library plan. "In rural districts where there is the greatest need of the principle of co-operation, it is the least practised."

LOCAL.

Albany (N. Y.) F. L. Added 400; total 3094. Issued, home use 10,200; lib. use 1800. Receipts \$831.79. During the year the building fund was increased from \$1480 to \$2030.

Braddock, Pa. Carnegie F. L. Added 1615; total 11,577. Issued 51,952 (fict., 78.3 %); ref. use 14,476; visitors to reading-rooms, estimated, 18,000.

Books on technical and practical scientific subjects are needed, as are more juveniles and books for supplementary reading in the schools.

Centerville (Ia.) Reading-Room Assoc. Early in July the association received from J. C. Phillips, of Seymour, Ia., the promise of a gift of \$1000 as a library fund, provided an equal sum was raised by local subscription. Since then, through vigorous efforts, about \$600 have been raised, and it is thought that the full amount will be secured before fall.

Chatham, Mass. Eldredge L. The library has been presented with a trust fund of \$5000 in

4 per cent. government bonds, by Hon. Marcelus Eldredge and H. Fisher Eldredge, of Portsmouth, N. H. The former has also presented the directors with a five-year paid-up insurance policy on the property of \$17,500. The town has transferred to the new building all funds and books held by the former town library.

Connecticut P. L. Committee. The work accomplished by the state library committee in 1895 is set forth in "Connecticut school document," no. 11, 1896, which is entitled "Public libraries." During that year 12 towns have established free public libraries and received the state grant of books; in 10 towns an existing library was given or loaned to and became part of the town library; and seven towns have received a first annual grant of books, under the provisions of the acts of 1895. There are now 59 towns in the state which possess no library, as against 71 in the report for 1893-94. The pamphlet includes full directions for towns desiring to establish libraries, and gives the usual full tabulated statistics of Connecticut libraries for 1894-95. These are followed by the reports of the libraries of Durham, Plainville, Putnam, Seymour, Suffield, Union, and Wethersfield, which have been established under the act of 1893. "Connecticut school document," no. 8, 1896, is a "Circular relating to public libraries," containing the law of 1893, the library act of 1895, full directions for the establishment of a town library, with list of towns possessing libraries, and some of the reports given in document no. 11.

Council Bluffs (Ia.) F. P. L. (15th rpt.) Added 1293; total 20,243. Issued, home use 76,705, an increase of 7087 over the previous year. New registration 652; total card-holders 6521. Receipts \$7437.55; expenses \$6038.

The trustees suggest lowering the age limit to 12 years.

Denver (Colo.) P. L. (Rpt., 1895-96.) Added 8310; total 31,149. Issued, home use 219,562 (fict. .391 %; juv. fict. .203 %); attendance at library (estimated, for 10 months) 361,926, as against 240,271 in 1895. No. of cards in use 12,931.

Mr. Dana's report is a most interesting and comprehensive statement of the aims and methods of the library, and gives many helpful suggestions in the line of work with the schools, access to shelves, guiding of children's reading, etc. The development of the library has been remarkable. In seven years it has increased from 1500 old and more or less worn volumes — a legacy of the old High School Library — to 31,000 v., or, including the collection of the Colorado Medical Society, 34,000 v.; 506 periodicals are taken. From the start access to the shelves has been permitted. "The result," says Mr. Dana, "has justified this plan. Few books have been stolen, few have been mutilated. Liberty has proved herself the mother of order." The rapid growth of the library has caused the need of more room to be seriously felt; for a year or more the seating capacity of the library has been overcrowded, and the

quarters are too narrow for good work at all times. "The reading-room patronage of the library was reduced, two years ago, by the changing of all reading-room space proper into a department for young people's books and an additional book-room; the chairs were removed at that time and stools substituted. The few newspapers on the subscription-list were dropped; the local daily papers were kept out of sight more rigorously than ever, lest they should attract visitors, and all illustrated journals, save the current numbers of each, were locked up. This practically meant that the whole library became a reference-room proper; though the magazine and journal list is still large, and attracts a good number of casual readers as well as students."

During the present year means will be taken to reduce still further the superficial use of the library. "To attract people to the library, to get them in the habit of using it, and to make them familiar, in a measure, with its resources, it was thought advisable, for the first few years, to be quite generous in the purchase of fiction. Authors were added to the list who are more worthy of attention because of their great popularity than because they have been approved by competent critics. It should be said, however, that the grade of books in this department in this library has always been markedly higher than it is in almost any other library of equal size and equal use in this country. In view of the library's limited quarters, and of the distinctly educational purpose had in view in its establishment and maintenance by the district, and of the fact that its extending popularity has for some time brought a severe strain on its resources, it is now thought desirable to cut down the list of fiction by dropping out all not distinctively 'standard.' This will be done gradually during the coming year. As the books no longer wanted are worn out they will be cut out of the lists and not replaced by new copies. A list of the library's fiction, as thus winnowed, will be published in the fall. The per cent. of fiction in the books lent for home use has decreased in the past two years from 62.2 to 59.4."

Mr. Dana also devotes considerable space to the history of the children's room, opened about two years since. Appended to the report are "Rules, suggestions, and hints," and the usual statistical tables.

Des Moines (Ia.) F. P. L. (5th rpt.—year ending July 1, '96.) Added 4490; total 19,690. Issued, home use 109,229 (fict. 52.14%; juv. 30.04%); ref. use 4780; lost 4. Visitors to library 119,473; new registration 1723.

The apparent inconsistency between the total volumes reported in the library according to this report and the same figures of the previous year's report is due to the fact that the present figures are the result of a definite inventory, the first one ever taken in the library, which naturally revealed the fact that the figures on the accession book did not exactly correspond with the number of volumes in the library. Miss McLoney recommends that hereafter an

inventory be taken from year to year. The circulation shows a gain of 15,351 over the previous year, and the reference statistics cover only books issued from the circulating department for reference purposes. The additions of new books during the year were the largest in the history of the library, and it is planned to materially increase, as far as possible, the library's resources. Miss McLoney gives an interesting and detailed description of the technical routine work of selecting, ordering, shelving, and cataloging books, and describes in detail the arrangement of the library in the new quarters to which it was removed in September, 1895. During the year a monthly bulletin of accessions, special lists, etc., has been published, and has proved popular. She urges the establishment of at least two delivery-stations during the present year. The report concludes with a comprehensive review of the history of the library since 1891; it is an interesting record of good work and increasing public usefulness.

Dixon (Ill.) P. L. During the three months the library has been open, 875 persons have registered as borrowers and 5247 v. have been issued for home use.

Elgin (Ill.) P. L. Added 1189; issued 125,874; visitors to ref. dept. 9422; Sunday attendance 5450. Receipts \$11,670.74; expens. \$6841.01.

Erie (Pa.) P. L. A meeting of trustees, to decide on the library plans, was held on Aug. 4, and the design submitted by Alden & Harlow, of Pittsburgh, was adopted by a vote of 13 to two. The adoption was subject to any future modification that might be required. The plans accepted call for a two-story and basement building costing about \$70,000, to be built of light pressed brick. The first story will have two entrances, both opening into a large delivery-room, which will extend from the first up through the second story and will be lighted from the glass roof in the daytime. On each side of the main entrance will be, respectively, a general reading-room and a children's reading-room. Opening from the delivery-room will be a periodical-room and toilet-rooms, a librarian's room, and a catalog-room. The stack-room will be at the south end of the building, and will have a capacity for 75,000 volumes. Opening from the delivery-room will be a stairway reaching to the second floor, and underneath will be another stairway to the basement. The stairway from the second entrance will be for the special use of the school board, enabling officers to enter their quarters without passing through the library, and for the accommodation of persons having business with them.

The second story will have a gallery running around the delivery-room, from which will open large rooms for the secretary of the school board and for the superintendent. Opening from the delivery gallery also will be four large rooms for collections; three additional rooms are intended for art gallery, historical collections, and a special reference-room.

The basement will be divided into a number of rooms, among which will be a mechanics' and apprentices' reading-room. It will contain storage accommodations and heating apparatus, either steam or hot water. The building will be lighted with electricity.

Fort Dodge (Ia.) F. P. L. (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '96.) Added 707; total 7492. Issued, home use 18,399; lost 6. The circulation shows an increase of 2714 v. over the previous year.

The library has been rearranged and classified according to the Dewey system, under the superintendence of Mrs. Bertha G. Ridgeway, of the State University Library.

Grand Rapids, Mich. On August 17 the Free Travelling Library Association of Grand Rapids filed articles of association with the secretary of state.

Greenfield (Mass.) F. P. L. Added 940. Issued 36,337. Receipts \$1830.44; expenses \$1825.06.

Hartford (Ct.) P. L. (58th rpt. — year ending June 1, '96.) Added 6013; total about 52,000. Issued, home use 201,581 (fict. 122,654; juv. fict. 37,923). New registration 2295; total registration 11,272; visitors to reading-room 62,204. Receipts \$15,141.19; expenses \$15,242.52, leaving a net deficit of \$101.33.

The collection of music, begun in 1894, has proved so popular that "notable additions have been made during the past year to the music supply, which, being first suitably bound, is placed upon the shelves in the reference-room, where it is accessible to the many who enjoy its privileges. In 11 months the circulation of these volumes has been 1736, more than five times for each volume already upon the shelves. During last summer 143 volumes of Swedish books were cataloged, and later in the year 187 were added to our German novels, and 45 to our French ones. The result of this is that the circulation of books in other languages than English is double what it was two years ago. The library has lately sent an order to Copenhagen for about 100 volumes in Danish, and is also adding to its small collection of Italian books a number of interesting modern novels."

"One of the most interesting departments of the library's work has been in connection with the Social Settlement in North street. The branch is open for an hour every Tuesday evening under the charge of your librarian, and in 12 months 111 cards had been taken and 566 books given out. The children who take library books are usually from 10 to 15 years old, and most of them are in the North school. Their school training shows in their choice of books, for Longfellow's and Whittier's poems, Irving's 'Sketch book' and 'Rip Van Winkle,' Ruskin's 'King of the Golden River,' Baldwin's 'Story of Siegfried,' and Kipling's 'Jungle book,' have all been added to the library at the request of the children themselves. Several children have been graduated from the branch and admitted to full library

privileges, and those who still take books at the settlement are receiving more personal attention and teaching as to the care of books than is possible in a large library."

Jackson (Mich.) P. L. (11th rpt.) Added 1491; total 14,718; issued 81,442. Total registration 4015. "Perhaps during no year since the existence of the library has there been such a demand for fiction."

Jamestown, N. Y. James Prendergast F. L. (5th rpt. — year ending July 8, '96.) Added 483; total 10,527. Issued, home use 51,946 (fict. 50.87%; juv. 21.09%); visitors to ref. dept. 21,925.

"50.8 per cent. of fiction and 21 per cent. of juvenile fiction, a total of 71.8 per cent. of fiction, is not an unreasonable proportion, and is lower than in many communities. The reduction in the percentage of fiction is due not so much to any discouraging of novel-reading — for it should be remembered that the reading of good fiction deserves encouragement, since it is literature — as to the development of interest in other and more solid departments. The intelligent work of the teachers in constantly keeping before their pupils interesting books pertaining to their studies is a great aid in elevating the reading tastes. At the library every effort was made to direct attention to interesting reading. Lists were posted on the bulletin board on topics of the day, and personal attention was given those who desired assistance in the selection of home reading. In the reading-room on open shelves was kept a selection of books from the circulating department; this gave opportunity for those who did not know what they wished, to choose from the books themselves, instead of from the printed titles in the finding list. The keen enjoyment of the public in handling the volumes themselves and the greater opportunity for making a satisfactory choice fully compensated for the extra labor involved."

Joliet (Ill.) P. L. The local Business Men's Association has held a public meeting to discuss ways and means of providing a new library building. They propose that the city appropriate for the purpose \$40,000 in instalments of \$5000 each, which could be secured by a tax levy of $1\frac{4}{100}$ mills. A new building is badly needed, and one is desired which will provide a reference-room as well as delivery and reading rooms.

Kansas City (Mo.) P. L. Work on the new library building is making good progress. The date set for completion is Jan. 1, 1897. The building, which will cost \$200,000, is built of light-colored Carthage stone; it is 104 x 140 feet in diameter, two stories high, and will have a book capacity of 250,000 v. The architects are W. F. Hackney and A. Van Brunt.

Long Island City (L. I.) P. L. The library was opened to the public on Monday, Aug. 3; it starts with about 5000 v. and a good supply of magazines and newspapers.

Milton-on-the-Hudson, N. Y. A pleasant and successful Japanese tea and curio exhibit was given on August 7 and 8, at the house of Miss Dorcas Hull, for the benefit of the Sarah H. Hallock Free Library. The library has the promise of a room in the new public hall now in the course of erection.

Montclair (N. J.) F. P. L. (3d rpt.) Added 1036; total 5163. Issued, home use 31,290 (fict. 82.8 %); reading-room attendance 4586. New registration 1358; total "live" cards in use 1983. Receipts \$3730.05; expenses \$3296.81.

The circulation shows an increase of 34 % in home use and 15 % in ref. use. During the year extra teachers' cards were issued for use in school work. A list is given of those books issued 40 times or more during the year; Miss Wilkin's "New England nun" leads with 90 issues. "The public has free access to the book-shelves at all times except during the crowded hours, when the cramped space necessitates some restrictions."

The president of the board of trustees says: "The most urgent need for enlarged quarters is felt by those who desire to use the reading-room and to consult the books of reference. The usefulness of the library is limited by insufficient space. A building for the exclusive use of the library has now become a necessity. The trustees have hoped that ere this some citizen would have volunteered to build an appropriate structure for the library; meanwhile, they have been working to secure a fund to be devoted to the erection of a building; about \$1500 has been accumulated and placed at interest and \$2500 has been pledged by four generous citizens; but a sum of about \$25,000 will be required to purchase a plot of land in a central location and to complete even a moderate-sized library. When this is an accomplished fact the full benefit of the library will be manifest."

New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations. The sub-committee appointed to prepare a draft of the Greater New York Charter have included a provision stating that "whenever the land now occupied by the reservoir at Fifth avenue and 40th and 42d streets shall be made a public park, and the reservoir shall be removed, the department of parks shall, in its discretion, enter into a contract with the New York Public Library — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations — for the use and occupation of the land, or of any part thereof, for establishing and maintaining a free public library and reading-room, and carrying out the objects and purposes of the corporation in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of consolidation between the trustees of the Astor Library, the trustees of the Lenox Library, and the Tilden Trust, and the several acts incorporating the said several corporations; such contract may provide that the use and occupation shall continue so long as the corporation or its successors shall maintain a free public library and reading-room upon that land."

New York. Washington Heights F. L. On Aug. 24 the corporate name of the library was legally changed from Washington Heights Library to Washington Heights Free Library.

Niagara Falls (N. Y.) P. L. (1st rpt.) Added 895; total 3888. Issued, home use 18,510. Receipts \$1711.44; expenses \$1900.90.

Ogden (Utah) P. L. The city council has recently appropriated \$25 a month toward the general support of the library. At the last directors' meeting library affairs were reported as in a prosperous condition; a number of new books have been lately added, and the two small rooms in the city hall are now entirely inadequate for the needs of reading-room and book-shelves.

PENNSYLVANIA TRAVELLING LS.; by John Thomson. (*In The Citizen*, August, p. 199-200.)

A description by the librarian of the Philadelphia Free Library of the system of travelling libraries inaugurated in Philadelphia, and described in the June L. J. (p. 277).

Pleasantville (N. Y.) L. A. The new library building, which is practically completed, is a frame structure, designed by J. W. Robinson, of New York City, and combines library, auditorium, and club-house. The first floor contains an auditorium, a library and reading-room combined, and a social room; in the basement are a bowling-alley, billiard-room, kitchen, and dressing-rooms. The building cost about \$7000, raised by subscription, and the library contains about 2000 v.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y. On July 30 a special city election was held to determine whether or not the city should spend \$10,000 for a site for the Adriance Memorial Library, to be erected by the Adriance family. The appropriation was passed by a vote of 284 against 54.

Richmond (Ky.) P. L. A. On August 8 a public library association was organized, with a capital stock of \$1000; the new association is a reorganization of the local Library Association that has heretofore conducted the library on a subscription basis.

Rome, N. Y. Jervis L. (Rpt.) Total 10,577. Issued 40,162.

The library opened July 15, 1895, with 9315 v., 2681 of which are held in trust for five years. The circulating books comprise only about half of the library. During the year the size of the reading-room has been doubled by the cutting of an opening between it and the adjoining room; an historical collection has been started, and a room on the second floor utilized for study clubs.

Roseville (Ill.) L. A. On August 15 the Roseville Library Association was incorporated for the purpose of "operating a free public library and reading-rooms."

Sacramento (Cal.) F. P. L. (17th rpt. — year ending July 31, '96.) Added 1293; total not given. Issued, home use 70,286 (fict. and juv. 71 %); lost 29. Reading-room attendance 48,687.

Receipts \$11,139.41; expenses \$8122.64. "The one thing we need now to make the library of greater value to the community is a reference-room."

Salem (Mass.) F. P. L. The library has received the medal and diploma awarded it at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago, 1893, "for an ingenious adaptation of an old dwelling to library purposes, excellent administrative devices and arrangements to encourage the use of books by public-school pupils."

San Francisco (Cal.) Mercantile L. (43d rpt., for 1895.) Added 1758; total 70,257. Issued 42,461 (fict. 72.71%). New membership 258; total membership 832. Receipts \$17,674.11; expenses \$12,465.33.

Sea Cliff (L. I.) P. L. Added 121; total 650. Issued, home use 2612. Receipts \$612.77; expenses \$566.57.

Sioux City (Ia.) P. L. Added 933; total 9678. Issued 41,600; lost 21. New registration 1074; expenses \$3123.50.

Somers, Ct. A site for the new library building has been selected and the plans prepared. It is hoped to have the building completed before spring.

Southport, Ct., Pequot L. (2d rpt.) Added 1664; total 8273. Issued, home use 13,806 (fict. 70%, including juv. fict.; juv. 26%). New cards issued 254; total registration 881. Reading-room attendance 16,655.

In October, 1895, teachers were given the privilege of drawing any number of books at a time, for school-room use. Two months later, non-fiction cards were introduced. These have improved the character of the circulation and diminished the rate per cent. of fiction.

Trenton, N. J. Efforts are being made to establish a public library, using as a nucleus the library of the local W. C. T. U., which it is hoped may be transferred to the city. The Union has recently been unable to support the library properly, and it has been forced to curtail expenses, hours of opening, and purchase of books. The library, while a fee has been charged for books drawn for home use, has been free for reference and reading.

Waterville (Me.) F. L. The library was opened to the public on Aug. 22. Mrs. M. D. Johnson is librarian.

Wisconsin travelling libraries. The travelling libraries established in several counties of the state are meeting with all the success which was prophesied for them. Dunn county has the largest number, 26 being established there through the efforts of Senator Stout, of Menomonie. 16 were first started and the demand was so great that 10 more were ordered. In this county nearly all of the libraries have been placed in the post-offices of the villages; this is especially desirable since every one goes to the post-office daily and attention is called to the books which they would not find otherwise. The Wood county travelling libraries, made possible by the gift of \$1000 for the purpose by

J. D. Witter, of Grand Rapids, are to be started immediately. Mr. Witter is willing to supplement his gift later, and this will make it possible to start there with at least 16 libraries.

At Chippewa Falls some difficulty was experienced in the undertaking, since under the library provisions there no expenditure is to be made except for the benefit of the city library. Through the effort, however, of Miss Maud H. Early, it is going to be possible to start a number of the libraries soon, the books coming as gifts through Miss Early's solicitation.

S. E. Lathrop, of Washburn, has placed a number of small libraries throughout the northern part of the state, locating them in the different pinery regions. The libraries are small ones, and the books are mostly gifts, coming in a number of cases from people in the east who have been interested in the work. Boxes of 50 and more books have arrived, and a dozen or more of the little libraries have been established through Mr. Lathrop's effort. Gifts from private libraries where duplicates are found, or gifts of one or two books from those interested in the undertaking, will give to a large number of others of the small north Wisconsin villages libraries whose educational influence is undoubted.

FOREIGN.

Canada libraries. Complete statistics of the libraries of Canada are being prepared by the statistical officer of the Dominion and will be published in the Year-book for 1897.

Halifax (N. S.) P. L. Total 22,646. Issued, home use 48,781; ref. use 2398. New registration 580; total registration 3008.

Gifts and Bequests.

Bellevue, Pa. According to the will of the late Mrs. Jane Bayne Teece, of Pittsburgh, the city of Bellevue is to receive, on the death of the sister of Mrs. Teece, a fine site and \$10,000, to be devoted to establishing a park and public library.

Oshkosh, Wis. Some time ago this city, by the death of Marshall Harris, or rather of his widow, to whom he left instructions to dispose of his estate, became the sole legatee to property and cash to the amount of \$60,000, to be used for the purposes of a public library, with the proviso that the city or citizens raise an additional amount to increase the sum total to \$100,000. Mrs. Harris died two or three years ago, and the income from the property, together with the rise in values, have made the sum of \$60,000 certain. Ex-Senator Sawyer, of Oshkosh, has now promised to give \$25,000 towards the \$100,000, thus leaving \$15,000 to be made up by public or private subscription. It is thought that this amount will be soon raised.

Oyster Bay, L. I. Andrew Carnegie recently offered to give \$1000 to this town for a free library on condition that \$6000 additional be raised for the purpose. Mr. George Beckman

has offered to give another \$1000, but it is doubtful if the remaining sum can be raised.

Pontiac, Mich. Hon Byron G. Stout bequeathes to the Ladies' Library Association of Pontiac, Mich., his life insurance, worth about \$5000, and a brick block on Main street valued at \$2500. In the testament he desires that the money be used in erecting a memorial library, the plans for the construction of which are specified in the will.

Librarians.

ASHABRANNER, J. H., on August 6 resigned his position as librarian of the New Albany (Ind.) Public Library. He is succeeded by Walter G. Harrison, who has been assistant librarian for five years past.

BURROWS, Miss Alice, for 14 years assistant librarian of the Springfield (O.) Public [Ward-er] Library, has been elected librarian, succeeding the late Robert C. Woodward.

DODGE, Miss Virginia, of Oak Park, Ill., has been elected librarian of the newly organized City Library of Cedar Rapids, Ia. Miss Dodge is a graduate of the Armour Institute Library Class.

TURNER, Miss Minnie, has been appointed librarian of the East St. Louis (Mo.) Free Public Library, succeeding Thomas Nelson.

WOODRUFF, Edwin H., has resigned the librarianship of the Leland Stanford Jr. University to accept a professorship of law in the Cornell University Law School.

Cataloging and Classification.

BELFAST (*Irel.*) L. AND SOC. FOR PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE (Linen Hall) Library. General catalogue; comp. by George Smith, librarian. Belfast, 1896. 356 p. O.

An excellent dictionary catalog, two columns to the page, clearly printed on white paper and well bound. It includes all books in the library to Dec. 31, 1895, excepting English novels. These are listed in a separate catalog, and are omitted from the present volume, save some which "occur in the complete works of authors, and some which have a local interest, as well as novels in foreign languages." No attempt to give specially full names has been made; titles are shortened whenever practicable, and the imprint includes number of volumes, size, place of publication (when other than London), date, and name of series. Analytical entries and contents of collected works are given quite fully. Authors' names are given in Clarendon type, subject headings in small caps, and contents in nonpareil.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for August contains a 3-page "Index to lists of books on various topics to be found in the quarterly bulletins, vol. 1-14, 1867-1896."

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for August contains "reference list no. 12" on "The money question"; it includes periodical literature as well as books.

NOTTINGHAM (*Eng.*) F. P. REF. L. No. 20 class list: Hosiery, lace, needlework, etc. August, 1896. 16 p. D. 1d.

"This list has been published to supply a long-felt need of the staple trades of Nottingham. It should prove invaluable to lace designers especially, particular research having been made to obtain all information available as to the history of lace and the illustration of lace design." It includes books, magazine and encyclopædic articles, and is divided into three parts: 1. Works in the reference library; 2. Works in the lending library which may be referred to in the reference library; 3. Works in other libraries not available in the Nottingham public libraries.

The OSTERHOUT L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *News-letter* contains in its August issue a list of books and magazine articles bearing on the currency question.

OTIS L. (*Norwich, Ct.*) *Bulletin* concludes, in its August issue, the reference list on materials of Connecticut history begun in the July number.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for August contains an interesting referencel list on "Solar and lunar eclipses," and two "Special catalogs" on Astronomy, and Labor and allied subjects.

SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. Class list, no. 2: History, Travel, Biography. Salem, April, 1896. 178 p. O. 10c.

The class list proper is prefaced by a table of contents and followed by an index to authors and an index to subjects. It includes all books on the subject in the library to April 1, 1896, listing about 10,600 v., and is a consolidation of the sections of the finding lists and bulletins covering the subjects treated. History and travel are arranged by country, subdivided according to periods, with minor political divisions when necessary. The list is a title-a-liner, two columns to the page, printed on manilla paper.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for August has special reading lists on Dickens, Scott, Thackeray, Labor and Socialism.

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains a special reading list on "The financial situation."

WORCESTER (*Mass.*) F. P. L. Second supplement to the catalogue (issued in 1884) of the circulating and a portion of the intermediate departments. Worcester, 1896. 940 p. O.

Includes accessions from June 1, 1889, to December 31, 1895; a representative and well-rounded collection. Like its predecessors, an admirable dictionary catalog, with contents of series and analytical entries. Well printed, well bound, and pleasant to handle.

Bibliography.

BONNANGE, F. *Projet d'un catalogue général unique et perpétuel des imprimés compris dans les bibliothèques nationales et les bibliothèques municipales: mémoire explicatif des moyens à employer pour accomplir ce grand œuvre, l'imprimer et le mettre au jour dès l'ouverture de l'Exposition universelle de 1900.* Corbeil, Drevet, 1896. 13 p. 8°.

CONGO. Wauters, A. J., and Bayl, A. *Bibliographie du Congo, 1880-1895: catalogue méthodique de 3800 ouvrages, brochures, notices et cartes relatifs à l'histoire, à la géographie et à la colonisation du Congo.* Brussels, Administration du Mouvement géographique, 1896. 8°. 7.50 fr.

DANCING. Desrat, G. *Dictionnaire de la danse: historique, théorique, pratique et bibliographique, depuis l'origine de la danse jusqu'à nos jours.* Paris, Libraires-imprimeries réunies, 1896. 8°, il. 5.50 fr.

DANTE. Scartazzini, G. A. *Enciclopedia Dantesca: dizionario critico e ragionato di quanto concerne la vita e le opere di Dante Alighieri.* v. 1: A-L. Milan, Utr. Hoepli, 1896. 1169 p. D.

This is not a bibliography, but rather an exhaustive Dante concordance, or encyclopedic dictionary of all persons, places, events, and special words found in Dante's writings. It is a monument of painstaking devotion. The second volume, covering M-Z, is now in press, and will be published probably before 1898.

GAS AND WATER SUPPLY. Steude, A. *Die Literatur des Gas- und Wasserfaches: ein Verzeichnis von Büchern und Broschüren über Gasbeleuchtung und verwandte Beleuchtungsarten, sowie für Wasserversorgung, Entwässerung und verwandte Gebiete. Auf Anregung des deutschen Vereins von Gas- und Wasserfachmännern gesammelt.* Munich, R. Oldenbourg, 1896. 78 p. 8°. 2 m.

GUNS AND SHOOTING. E. G. Allen, of London, announces the forthcoming publication of a full "Bibliography of guns and shooting: being a list of ancient and modern English and foreign books relating to firearms and their use, and to the composition and manufacture of explosives," compiled and revised to date by Wirt-Gerrare, formerly editor of *The Gun-maker*. The editor will furnish an introductory chapter on technical books and their writers, firearms inventions, and the history of gunmaking, etc.

ITALY. Ottino, G., and Fumagalli, G. *Bibliotheca bibliographica italica: catalogo degli scritti di bibliologia, bibliografia e biblioteconomia pubblicati in Italia e di quelli risguardanti l'Italia pubblicati all'estero.* Premiato dal ministero della pubblica istruzione nel 1° concorso bibliografico. Primo supplemento annuale 1895, per cura di Gius. Ottino. Turin, Clausen, 1896. 45 p. 8°. 2.50 lire.

LANGLOIS, Ch. V. *Manuel de bibliographie historique.* 1: instruments bibliographiques. Paris, Hachette, 1896. 193 p. 8°.

LASTEYRIE, Rob. de, and Bougenot, E. S. *Bibliographie des travaux historiques et archéologiques publiés par les sociétés savantes de la France.* tome 3, livr. 1. Paris, Leroux, 1896. 4°. 4 fr.

STEVENSON, R. L. The September number of *The Bookman* contains an interesting "Bibliography of Robert Louis Stevenson," by Ernest Dressel North (p. 81-85).

INDEXES.

THE ENGINEERING INDEX, vol. 2, 1892-1896 (400 p., \$4), is published by D. Van Nostrand & Co., New York, and is a comprehensive and valuable guide to the varied engineering literature of the four years from Jan. 1, 1892, to Jan. 1, 1896. The material composing this volume has appeared in the monthly numbers of the *Journal of the Association of Engineering Societies* during the period, and has been prepared by technical experts, associated with the editor, J. B. Johnson. The object kept in view in the preparation of the notes has been to put in as small a space as possible such short descriptions of the scope and general character of the articles indexed as to enable one in search of information on a particular subject to decide whether or not it would be worth his while to obtain or consult the original article, paper, or report. Since the elaborate index published in the *Engineering Magazine* has contained the descriptive notes which made the index of the *Journal of the Association of Engineering Societies* valuable, the board of managers of that journal decided that it was no longer necessary for them to maintain this department, and they therefore discontinued the index on Jan. 1, 1896.

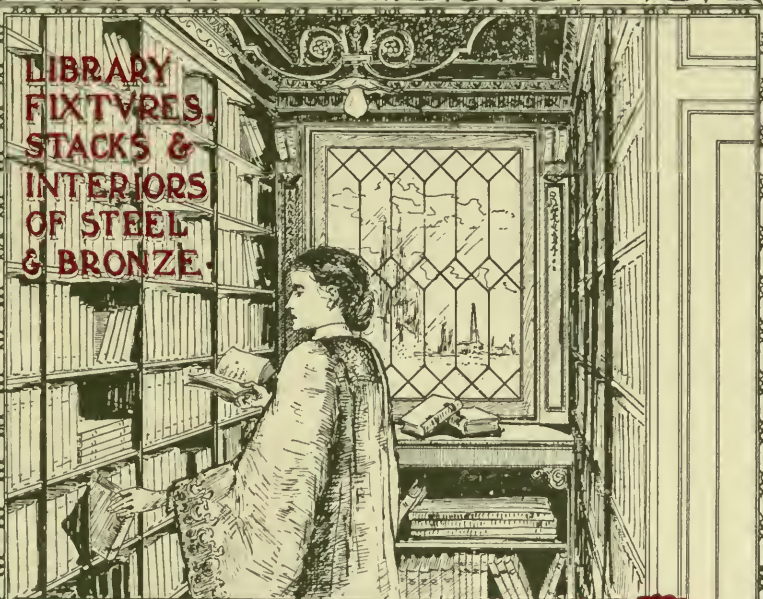
Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

Pritchard, Martin J.—"We understand that 'Martin J. Pritchard,' the author of . . . 'Without sin' [H. S. Stone & Co., 1896], is the daughter of Lady Monckton."—*The Bookman*, Sept.

"Dorothea" (Round-Robin Series) attributed in most catalogs which I have seen to C. H. Patchin, is now in the catalog of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. under Louise Stockton.—W. K. STETSON.

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STACKS &
INTERIORS
OF STEEL
& BRONZE.

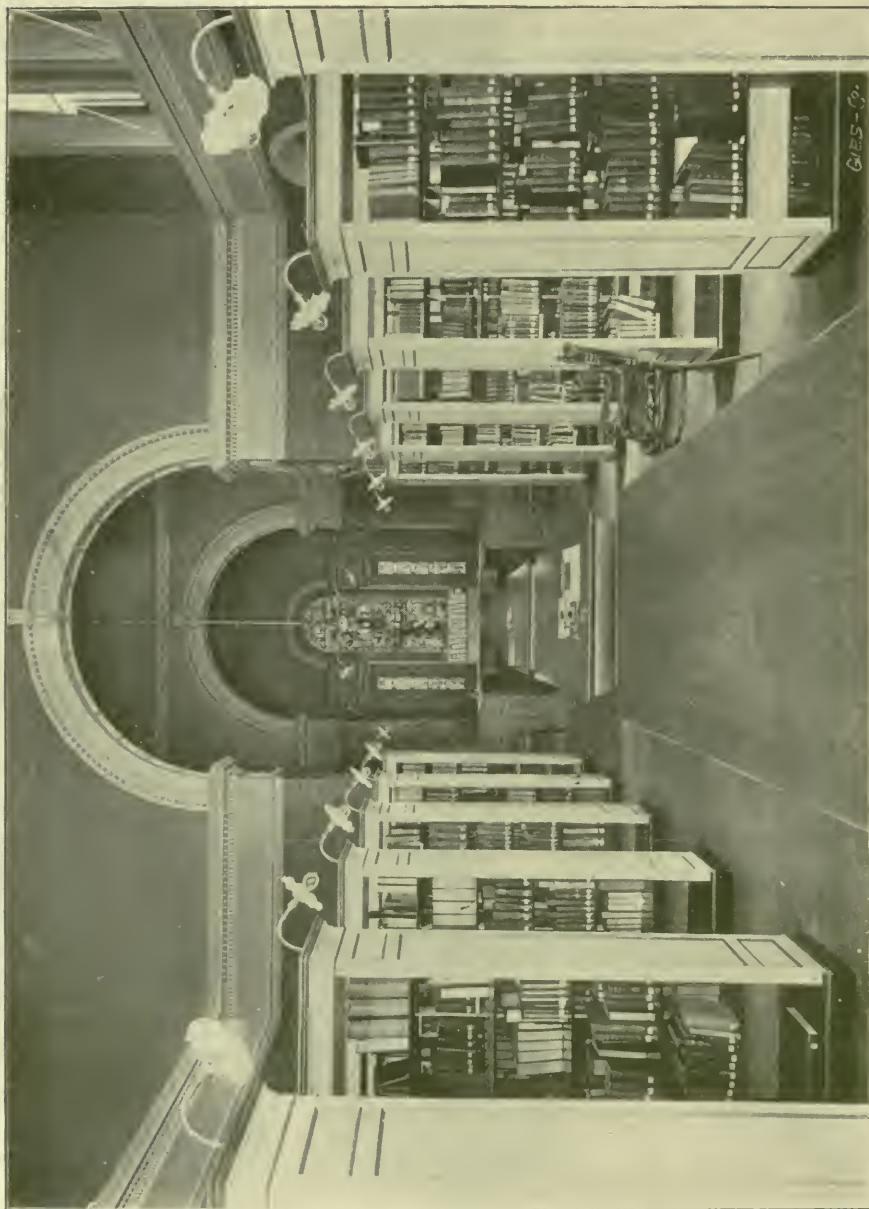


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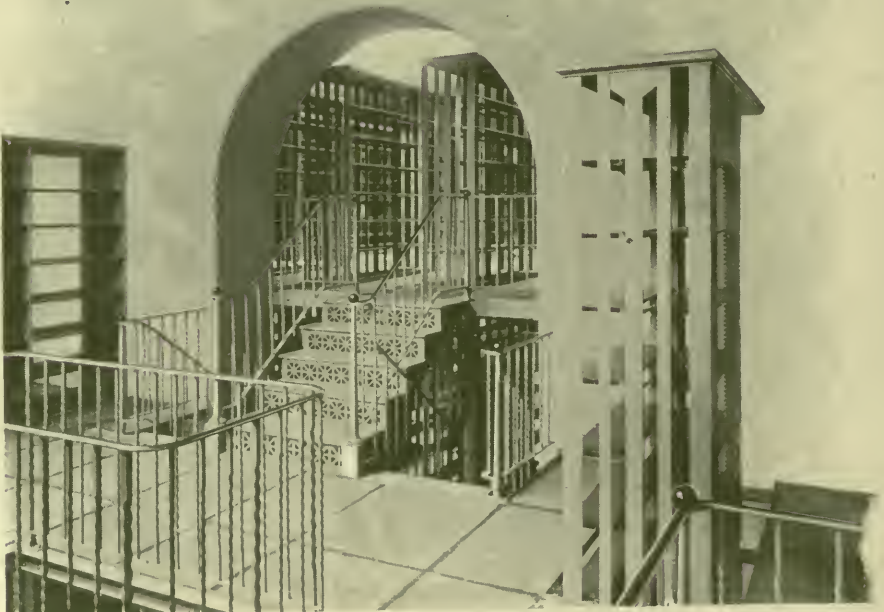


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2.



3.



4.

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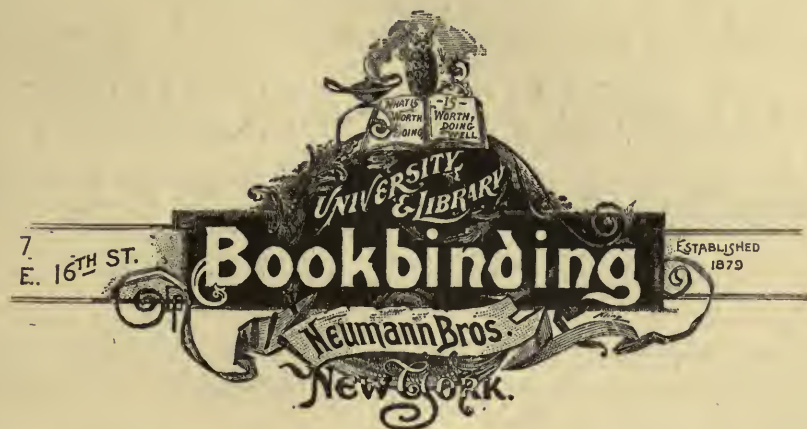
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CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

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VOL. 21. NO. 10.

OCTOBER, 1896.

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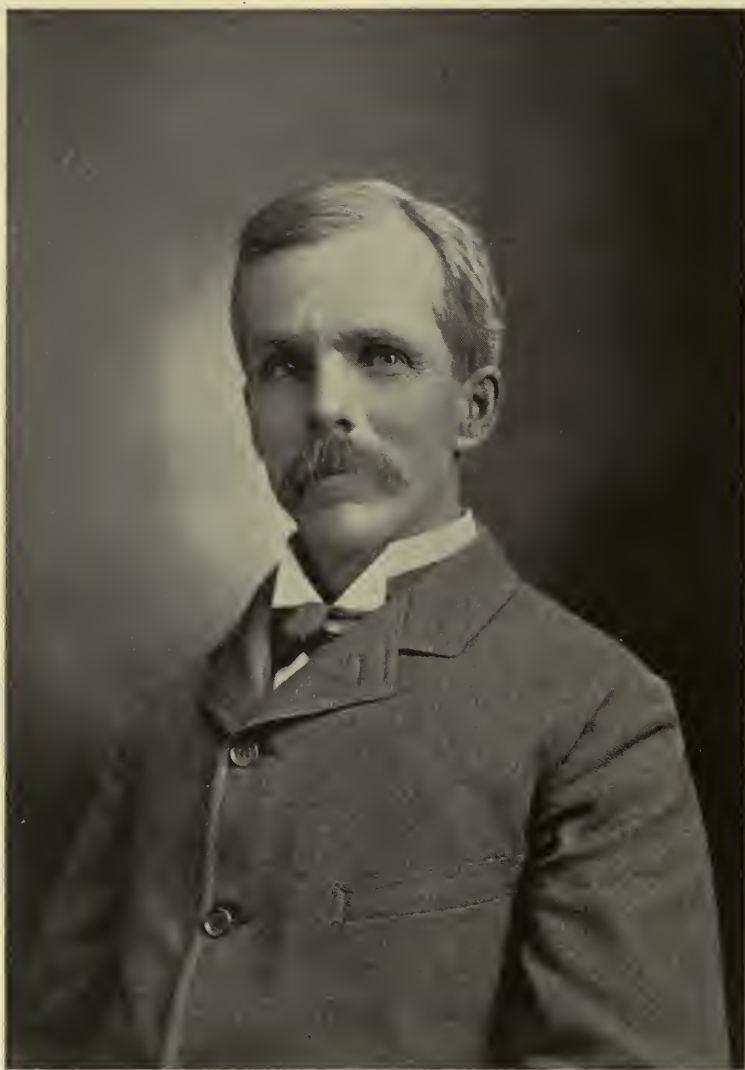
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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No. 10

It is not expected that the Congressional committee which has specially committed to it the arrangements for organizing the national library in its new home, will begin work until after the election excitement has passed. Senators Hansbrough, Wetmore, and Voorhees, and Representatives Harmer, Quigg, and Cummings, who constitute that committee, will then, however, have before them an opportunity unsurpassed in the history of libraries for influencing, for a hundred years to come, the educational development of this country. Before them will come, as a Washington paper states, "the whole problem of removal of the books from the old library to the new, the proper arrangement of the books in the new library, the rules to govern their use, and the very numerous details of the management of the new building, together with the determination of what shall be done with the rooms now occupied as a library in the capitol." These are details, but they can scarcely be discussed without developing in the course of the discussion the large scheme on which the national library must be administered in the future, if it is to be really the national library and worthy of its superb home. Opinion seems to be crystallized in favor of leaving in the central portion of the old library, within the capitol itself, a thoroughly comprehensive reference library for the immediate use of Congress, the other portions of the library space being converted into committee-rooms. This feature of the plan will make it easier to develop the main library, as newly housed, into the national library to which every one looks forward. It is to be hoped that the committee will plan widely and wisely, with a view to the far future, and will act in the light of the experience of foreign national libraries and of all the expert advice that it can get.

FROM all accounts the recent conference of the L. A. U. K. was one of the most noteworthy and successful in its history. It was rather an interesting coincidence that both the A. L. A. and the L. A. U. K. met this year on the same date, and a pleasant feature of the conferences was the exchange of messages between the two bodies, sending mutual greetings

and accepting and ratifying the invitation to the international conference of 1897. On comparing the reported proceedings of both conferences it is interesting to note the differences of manner and method with which each pursue a common aim. This dissimilarity is, perhaps, illustrated more strongly than usual this year, when the A. L. A. program gave but little representation to strictly technical or bibliographical topics, and was notably devoted to the educational, popular, and civic aspects of library work. With our English cousins, on the contrary, the bibliographical and antiquarian interests of the profession have always been emphasized, and among the features of this year's conference were two purely bibliographic essays — one on a rare edition of Martial, the other on early editions of the *Imitatio Christi*. The L. A. U. K. program, while it covered thoroughly the general field of library work in Great Britain, did not touch at all upon topics that were of prime interest at the American conference, such as travelling libraries, children's reading, library advertising, and the selection of individual books.

BUT the most notable difference in the two bodies was the lack of feminine participation in the English meeting. Two years ago, after the L. A. U. K. representation at the Chicago Conference, two women were represented on the English program, but this year not only were there no papers by women, but to judge from the reports the conference seems to have been almost wholly a masculine affair. It can be only a matter of time before library work offers as broad a field for English women as it has given to their American sisters, and when the European Section of the A. L. A. makes its trip abroad next year it will most effectively illustrate what women can accomplish in the profession. Indeed, a comparison of the recent A. L. A. and L. A. U. K. meetings emphasizes more forcibly than ever the importance of this European trip. Both associations have a common aim, a common enthusiasm; each can gain help and suggestions from the other, and their joint session must undoubtedly prove of the greatest possible benefit to the library interests of both countries.

THE A. L. A. has become so large and so hard-worked an association that the duties of secretary are becoming correspondingly onerous. Moreover, this important office needs an element of continuity, which it has not hitherto had. It would seem to be a mistake, for many reasons, to make the office a salaried one, for what is practically the second office on the Association's roll of honor should be filled by one of the foremost library people, who could scarcely be expected to divorce himself from his library for this work, whether for his whole time or for so much of his time as the acceptance of a salary would suggest. The secretary should, however, have at his disposal an ample contingent fund for clerical and other expenses, and perhaps it would be well to provide for a permanent officer in the shape of a clerk for the A. L. A., who should be the secretary's personal assistant and be paid enough to live in the same town with the secretary himself. The American Association for the Advancement of Science has always been the better handled for having a permanent secretary in the person of Mr. F. W. Putnam, who has for years occupied that place. That good luck could hardly be repeated in the case of the A. L. A.; nor would it be fair to ask that kind of service from any man without adequate salary, and the method suggested is, perhaps, the best way out.

A HAPPY conclusion has been reached as to the issue of printed catalog cards by the A. L. A. Publishing Section. Mr. Lane, as secretary and treasurer of the Publishing Section, has undertaken the self-sacrificing task of overseeing directly the preparation of these cards—so far as oversight is necessary when the work is in such capable hands as those of Miss Browne, who relinquishes her position with the Library Bureau to take up this work in association with Mr. Lane at the Boston Athenæum. Miss Browne is equipped for this work not only by skill but by direct experience, and we have heard no criticism whatever upon the way in which she has already handled the editorial preparation of these cards. It is hoped also that under these new arrangements some time may be given by her to other work of the Publishing Section, such as forwarding the preparation for press of the proposed index to portraits, and kindred work. The Library Bureau will continue to use its special facilities in printing and distributing the cards,

and it is hoped to devise a satisfactory plan of furnishing the cards in select lots to smaller libraries. It is doubly gratifying that the work is not to be given up and that it is to be continued under a combination of such happy auspices.

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SYSTEMS OF SHELF-NOTATION.

BY H. H. LANGTON, *Librarian University of Toronto, Canada.*

MANY useful and acceptable reforms have been introduced of recent years in all branches of library administration; cataloging now takes rank among the exact sciences, the card-catalog in one form or another is almost universally accepted, and in other minor matters the conservatism of librarians has been effectually broken through. But the unanimity with which reforms in other departments have been accepted fails in one important instance, and the problem of shelf-notation and shelf-classification still awaits a solution that shall give general satisfaction. Undoubtedly a step of great importance in the right direction was taken when methods of designating not the place but the class to which a book belongs were introduced. The labor of altering shelf-marks whenever the collection of books outgrew its habitation was by this means saved, and decimal notation further provided in a truly philosophic manner for indefinite expansion. We must all feel grateful to Mr. Dewey and to those who ably seconded him in establishing the great principle of denoting classification instead of locality by the shelf-marks. The older method, however, possessed one merit which its successors unfortunately lack, the merit of simplicity. When bookcases were merely numbered or known by the letters of the alphabet in order of position, and the books marked according to case and shelf, the discovery of a book marked D5, for example, presented no difficulty. It was obvious that the division known as D, whether alcove or bookcase, would be third from the similar division known as A, and 5 evidently represented the fifth shelf. Therefore when the locality of A was once learned it was an easy matter to find D5. But what course of *a priori* reasoning would enable us to find 941.07 or Y36'D·F?

But it is not only the complexity of the later systems of shelf-notation that operates to their disadvantage. Therein they but illustrate the law of nature that increased complexity is attendant on higher organization. The fundamental defect in all systems of shelf-notation at present in vogue is their hieroglyphic character. In other words the shelf-mark, whether composed of letters or figures or a combination

of both, is a mere symbol, meaningless except as a private mark, and even to the experts often unintelligible without reference to the key or dictionary of their peculiar code. Thus in Mr. Dewey's monumental system the number 941.07 by no means signifies 941 and seven hundredths, but stands for "History of Scotland during the period when the sovereigns of Great Britain were also Electors of Hanover." Nor when this information has been gained does it afford any clue to the interpretation of 941.17, which happens to represent the history of the Hebrides from the earliest times to the present day. Similarly the mark Y36'D23D·F in Mr. Cutter's system signifies that a French translation of Dante's "Divina Commedia" is contained within.* Either system is frankly hieroglyphic and requires a key or dictionary for its use even by the library officials; and when that key assumes the bulk of Dewey's "Decimal classification" it is evident that considerable intelligence and much study are needed for comprehension of the system. In addition to the loss of time involved where the key has to be consulted, the strain upon the attention of the assistant who fetches the book or returns it to the shelves must be taken into consideration. Accuracy as absolute as human faculties are capable of is of the first importance when books are replaced on the shelves, and this is best attained by calling into play the intelligence or reflective power as well as visual memory. The attendant who goes for or replaces 941.07 or Y36'D·F has no knowledge of the meaning of these marks. His brain is busy with recording these symbols in their order, and in repeating them and comparing them with other slightly different symbols at the shelves. The task is almost mechanical and demands the tireless regularity of a machine. But the mind of man is not a machine and refuses to act as one. Hence arise the mistakes and misplacements of vol-

[* Note by Mr. Cutter: This mark is in the form that would be given to an ordinary author. The mark actually used in the Expansive classification for a French version of the "Divina Commedia" is Y36'D·F. In every literature a few leading and prolific authors have their marks abbreviated in this way.]

umes which count for so much in the working of a library.

It is with a view to finding a remedy for what appears to be an inherent defect in the decimal and other hieroglyphic systems that the following suggestions are made. If plain English could be substituted for symbols, and the advantages of class-notation and indefinite expansiveness preserved, the result would be on the whole in the direction of greater ease and expeditiousness in the transmission of books to readers, which is the main object of a library's existence.

It remains to be seen whether any system of intelligible marking can be devised that shall not be too cumbersome for use. Obviously the words forming the titles of classes cannot be written in full on the label or space reserved for shelf-mark. Such a designation as Y36·D·F would, by translation of each symbol, become "*Literature, Italian, Dante, Divina Commedia, French.*" But it may be possible to abbreviate and eliminate so as to arrive at a mark that shall be at once sufficient and concise and intelligible. The abbreviation *Ital.* or even *It.* for Italian is unmistakable as the designation of a department in a library, and in the same connection *Lit.* may very well stand for *Literature*. Thus the two first symbols of Y36·D·F can be replaced by *Ital. Lit.* In Mr. Cutter's Boston Athenæum classification, out of which the "Expansive" grew, the mark was VIP, I standing for *Italian* and P for *Poetry*, because then Mr. Cutter divided Literature into *Drama, Essays, Poetry*, etc. It is the opinion of the writer that the arrangement of works of pure literature on the shelves according to form or subject-matter errs on the side of over-classification. Subdivision and analysis of that nature may very well be left to the histories of literature or to the library catalog. The practice of circulating libraries has established the separate existence of a class "Fiction," on account of the exceptional demand for that species of literature on the part of readers, but for college and reference libraries no such reason exists, and subdivision of the works of individual authors involves arbitrary discrimination and many perplexities. It appears that Mr. Cutter has arrived at the same conclusion, as he makes no form division in Literature, except for English fiction; but if the Boston Athenæum classification were used the mark

Ital. Poet. might be substituted for the symbols VIP, and would represent in a satisfactory and intelligible manner all the ideas symbolized by that portion of the hieroglyph.

Before proceeding further it is necessary to postulate the principle of alphabetical arrangement according to authors in every subdivision of the library. It is one that can be grasped without difficulty by any individual who has learned the alphabet, and it may be taken for granted that the absolutely unlettered do not receive or apply for positions in libraries. The practice of publishers and bookbinders in impressing the name of the author and the essential portion of the title upon the cover of every volume, or at least upon the title-page, may also be conveniently taken advantage of in economizing words and space in the shelf-mark. We are thus largely relieved of the necessity of supplying an intelligible equivalent for D·F in the hieroglyph already instanced. "*Dante, Divina Commedia*" is legibly stamped upon the volume itself, and by the application of the principle of alphabetical arrangement its place on the shelves devoted to works in Italian poetical literature can be readily found among the authors whose names begin with D.

For precaution the initial letter of the author's name may be written below the class-mark, thus: *Ital. Lit.,*

D as an assistance to, not a substitute for the intelligence of the attendant. For most libraries no further designation is necessary. But libraries grow, and the time may come when the collection of editions of Dante's works and books about him demands further classification, and can no longer be conveniently arranged in alphabetical order of editors and commentators. The example in question assumes a division according to the titles of Dante's different works, and accepting this classification we can denote it by an additional sub-heading in the class-mark, which

"*Ital. Lit.*

will now become *Dante* No further individual

Div. Com."

cation can be necessary except the initial letter of the name of editor or translator, and the whole mark will now, with the name of the translator on the cover or title-page, be as infallible a guide to the place of the book as Y36·D·F. It is true that the time spent in

writing this mark upon the title-page or shelf-mark space in the book, and again upon the main entry of the work in the card-catalog, is more than if the mark were Y36·D·F; but the mental effort will be less exacting where a number of volumes have to be marked, and the chances of error, therefore, minimized.

The above instance taken at random will serve as an example of the writer's meaning. Every librarian will have his own views as to details, and it is hoped that this indication of the principle suggested will elicit comment and criticism. The experience of the writer in the application of the system has convinced him that it is possible to devise abbreviated titles for all the divisions of literature, history, philosophy, science, and art, that a college or reference library has to provide, and has also proved the advantage of a mark that is intelligible at a glance to any one whose education qualifies him to use such a library.

Comment by C. A. CUTTER, Librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

As the example which Mr. Langton chiefly dwells upon is taken from my Expansive classification, I have been asked to supply some of the comment which he requests.

There are certainly advantages in his notation, but they are outweighed by its disadvantages. For city and town libraries it would be out of the question; for college libraries, to which alone Mr. Langton recommends it, it would have the disadvantage of filling much more space in a printed catalog or on a printed card, and of taking more time to write on a call-slip, of therefore generating an impatience that would lead to hasty writing and to quite as many mistakes as are imagined to be caused by errors in copying the "hieroglyphics" of the Decimal and the Expansive systems. Hieroglyphics evidently require and usually receive a certain degree of care in their copying. But every one would think that his writing of *Lit. Ital. Dante Divina Commedia, edition of 1867*, would be intelligible however hastily he might dash it off. The Langton plan also entirely misses the convenience of having a brief mark for each book, standing for it and no other, which can be used in all library records.

It is an entire mistake to suppose that "the attendant who goes for or replaces 941.07 or

Y36·D·F has no knowledge of the meaning of these marks." "The mind of man," as Mr. Langton well remarks, "is not a machine," and no boy who is worth his salt fails to pick up considerable knowledge, fragmentary and incomplete it may be but continually broadening, of the meaning of these symbols.

But the least defensible part of Mr. Langton's plan is his omission of author and work marks, using only the initial of the author's name. It is strange that any one who has dealt with books should rely upon the publishers' lettering to show authors and titles correctly enough for careful arrangement. Sometimes there is no lettering, sometimes no author is given or a wrong author, sometimes no title or a wrong title. Even when correct either author or title or both may be printed in very small type and on any part of the back. The class and book marks, on the contrary, are printed in a large clear type at a uniform height.

On condemning the omission of book numbers I speak whereof I do know. For over a year I have been issuing books at the Forbes Library under peculiar circumstances. A third of the volumes are fully classified and lettered with the class and book marks, the other two-thirds are arranged in great classes, such as Fiction, Biography, History, Science, Art, alphabetically under each, and not lettered. I have just separately asked each of five attendants whether they prefer to get and put up books in the lettered or unlettered portion. Each answered decidedly that the work is much easier and quicker in the lettered part. My own experience confirms this. They acknowledge that putting the initial of the author's name on the back could help them, but assert that even so they would be obliged to open at least half the books if they wish to arrange them accurately. And this means opening not merely the book which they are putting away but often many of the books already on the shelves, to determine where among them the new-comer belongs. None of this fussy work is necessary if the books are properly lettered with class and work marks.

When our carpenters return to the stone hammers and axes of the palæolithic age, librarians who have once used a symbolic class and book notation will abandon it for the inconsistent and inadequate lettering of publishers and binders.

WHAT ADULTS AND CHILDREN READ.

BY ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, *Librarian New York Free Circulating Library.*

THE division of the circulation of a library into two portions — books read by adults and those read by children — has been tried before, but, I believe, never in New York City, and never under circumstances that give an opportunity of direct comparison between results at different libraries. The New York Free Circulating Library, with its separate branches in different localities, each forming, for the purposes of such an experiment as this, a distinct library having its separate class of patrons, seemed an ideal place to carry out such a plan, the object being to collect the maximum of statistical information with the minimum of trouble. Accordingly, during the month of April last the experiment was tried at each of the branches of the New York Free Circulating Library (then numbering

six), and the results are presented and discussed herewith.

The division was accomplished very simply by using two circulation trays—one for the book cards of all books taken out by children, and the other for the adults. In many cases, of course, the question whether a given user of the library should be classed as an adult or a child was hard to answer, and this introduces some ambiguity into the results, as is noted more in detail below. The assistants were directed however, to consider every person clearly above school age as an adult, and an attempt was made to draw the line definitely at this point.

The results appear in the following two tables, the first of actual circulations for one month, the second of the corresponding percentages :

Circulation among adults and children for one month.

BOND STREET BRANCH.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lib.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall Use.	Totals.
Adults....	257	255	1,776	134	100	81	85	286	295	68	230	167	267	4,001
Children...	21	3,155	539	495	199	167	47	198	179	25	197	250	139	5,611
Total...	278	3,410	2,315	629	299	248	132	484	474	93	427	417	406	9,612

GEORGE BRUCE BRANCH.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lib.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall Use.	Totals.
Adults....	660	587	6,692	334	232	231	118	330	483	116	315	277	249	10,624
Children...	75	3,920	513	393	201	228	13	75	92	28	91	121	57	5,807
Total...	735	4,507	7,205	727	433	459	131	405	575	144	406	398	306	16,421

HARLEM BRANCH.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lib.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall Use.	Totals.
Adults....	68	48	3,197	65	49	82	44	121	164	31	99	105	64	4,137
Children...	3	3,146	635	208	92	159	36	117	114	12	112	99	126	4,859
Total...	71	3,194	3,832	273	141	241	80	238	278	43	211	204	190	8,996

JACKSON SQUARE BRANCH.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lib.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall Use.	Totals.
Adults....	338	253	2,544	164	136	127	63	204	537	72	153	181	227	4,999
Children...	12	2,000	428	189	144	127	31	56	386	16	97	120	96	3,702
Total...	350	2,253	2,972	353	280	254	94	260	923	88	250	301	323	8,701

MUHLENBERG BRANCH.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lib.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall Use.	Totals.
Adults....	*	14	1,237	22	56	62	10	57	208	18	24	15	8	1,731
Children...	*	1,702	71	90	82	67	17	42	172	2	36	51	6	2,333
Total...	*	1,716	1,308	112	133	129	27	99	380	20	60	66	14	4,064

OTTENDORFER BRANCH.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lib.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall Use.	Totals.
Adults....	*	85	5,543	186	189	128	100	536	428	38	219	174	335	7,961
Children...	*	2,644	351	312	142	114	52	133	170	39	90	85	22	4,154
Total...	6,149	2,729	5,894	498	331	242	152	669	598	77	309	259	357	12,115

WHOLE LIBRARY.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lib.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall Use.	Totals.
Adults....	*	1,242	20,989	905	762	711	420	1,534	2,115	343	1,040	919	1,150	33,453
Children...	*	16,567	2,537	1,687	860	864	196	621	1,113	122	623	726	446	26,466
Total...	7,583	17,809	23,526	2,592	1,622	1,573	616	2,153	3,228	465	1,663	1,645	1,596	59,909

Percentage distribution of circulation.

BOND STREET BRANCH.

	For.	Juv.	Fict.	Hist.	Biog.	Trav.	Poet.	Lit.	Period.	Phil. and Rel.	Sci.	Arts.	Hall.
Adults.....	7	7	41	4	3	2	2	7	8	2	6	4	7
Children.....	0.5	56	1	9	4	3	1	3	3	0.5	4	4	2
Both.....	3	36	24	7	3	3	3	5	5	1	4	4	4

GEORGE BRUCE BRANCH.

Adults.....	6	5	67	3	2	2	1	3	4	1	2	2	2
Children.....	1	67	9	7	3	4	0.5	1	1	0.5	1	2	1
Both.....	5	27	44	4	3	3	0.5	2	4	0.5	3	2	2

HARLEM BRANCH.

Adults.....	2	1	77	2	1	2	1	3	4	1	2	2.5	1.5
Children.....	0.6	65	13	4	2	3	0.7	2.5	2	0.2	2	2	3
Both.....	0.8	35.5	42.2	3	2	3	1	3	3	0.5	2	2	2

JACKSON SQUARE BRANCH.

Adults.....	7	5	51	3	3	2	1	4	11	1	3	4	5
Children.....	0.4	54	12	5	4	3	1	1	10	0.6	3	3	3
Both.....	4	26	34	4	3	3	1	3	11	1	3	3	4

MUHLENBERG BRANCH.

Adults.....	*	0.8	72	1	3	3.7	0.6	3	12	1	1.5	0.9	0.5
Children.....	*	73	3	4	3.5	2.5	0.7	2	7	0.1	2	2	0.2
Both.....	*	42	32	2.5	3	3	0.7	3	9	0.5	2	2	0.3

OTTENDORFER BRANCH.

Adults.....	*	1	70	2	2	2	1	6.5	6	0.5	3	2	4
Children.....	*	64	8	7.3	4	2.5	0.8	4	4	0.9	2	2	0.5
Both.....	51	23	49	4	3	2	1	5	4.5	0.5	3	2	3

WHOLE LIBRARY.

Adults.....	*	4	63	3	2	2	1	5	6.5	1	3	3	3.5
Children.....	*	67	10	6	3	3	0.7	2	4	0.5	2	3	1.7
Both.....	12	29	39	4	2.5	2.5	1	3.5	5	0.7	2.5	3	2.5

* At the Muhlenberg branch there is practically no foreign circulation. At the Ottendorfer branch the foreign circulation is distributed among the classes with the English.

The first thing to be noted, before proceeding to discuss these tables, is that the numbers of which they are composed are not exact, like those in an ordinary table of circulation, that is, only the totals are exact; the partition of these totals among adults and children involves not a little "personal equation." For instance, one assistant may habitually have drawn the line between adults and children a little lower than another, and it is even possible that the assistants in one branch may have drawn it a little lower than those in another branch, which would tend to vitiate any comparison between two branches, although it is more probable that the errors of estimation of different assistants would tend to counterbalance each other. Then the person who drew the book was not always the person who read it. Parents take out books for their children, and children for their parents or elder brothers.

This is a serious source of error. It was avoided as much as possible by directing the assistants to inquire, in all doubtful cases, for whom the book was intended. Often no inquiry was necessary, as in the case of children, known personally to the assistants, who were accustomed to draw books for older members of the family. But, notwithstanding all precautions, doubtless a very considerable residuum of error remains.

Noting first the points that are as we should expect them to be, we find that the children take out a larger percentage of books than the adults in juvenile fiction, and the adults more than the children in adult fiction, poetry, literature, periodical literature, philosophy and religion, and science. The unexpected happens, however, in history, biography, and travel, in each of which departments the children are ahead. That this is not a chance showing is

proved by the fact that the same is true in each of the six branches, taken by itself, with the sole exception of the department of travel in the Muhlenberg branch, in which the adults have a considerable advantage. In each of the three departments mentioned, also, the total number of volumes drawn by children is greater than those drawn by adults, although the number of adults using the library during the month was considerably the larger. This preponderance of children in these three departments is due largely, I believe, to the increased recent production of books designed specially for children's reading in biography, history, and travel, combined with the taste that children have for these subjects when properly presented. That this second condition is an important one is shown by the fact that there is no such excess of the children's use in literature, although the examples of good literature specially edited and prepared for children's reading probably exceed the works of history, biography, and travel designed for them. On the other hand, if there were no books in these three classes specially adapted to children, it is almost certain that their percentages would fall below the adults. Thus the figures here presented argue powerfully in favor of simplifying certain subjects for children.

It will be noticed that the percentages are almost always in favor of adults in each branch library where they are so for the whole library, the most striking variations being in the Muhlenberg branch where, besides the case already mentioned above, the children excel in poetry and science. This cannot be accounted for by the fact that the number of children using this branch library during the month exceeded the adults by one-third, for at Bond street, where the children exceed by more than this — over 40 per cent. — there are no such anomalies. With the exception of these two branches, the adults drew more books than the children in every branch.

A small percentage of juvenile fiction was drawn by adults and a somewhat larger percentage of adult fiction by children. The two sources of error noted above doubtless affect these figures, but there are still many books classed as adult fiction that are read by persons classified by us as children, and adults read children's books to some extent, also, as in the case of Kipling's "Jungle book" for instance. Some anomalies can be explained by local conditions, as in the case of the hall use in the

Harlem branch. In the other branches the adult hall use is at least double that of the children, but in Harlem the proportion is the other way, one reason being doubtless that there is a public school directly opposite the library, and that the children in many cases find it convenient to do their reading in the reading-room rather than to take the books home.

The tables will bear close study, and, I believe, contain much that is interesting, aside from the few points that can be noted in such an article as this.

TWO FUNDAMENTALS.*

IN considering library interests we do well, I think, not to confine ourselves to the limited range of library subjects.

That mysterious thing which we call society is growing more complex, every part more curiously intertwined with every other part, each human life bearing some relation to every other human life. Whether he will or no, it is literally true that "no man liveth to himself alone." If it were possible, then, as a part of this organism to discover some of the laws which govern the whole, we might come back to our special domain with an application of the laws which would have the force of freshness. I believe that we gain an insight into these controlling principles only by yielding to the tendency to solidarity, by opening ourselves to surrounding influences, by living the fullest life of which we are capable. I think I have seen the workings of two of these laws which have a close relation to each other. If I am right your experience will confirm mine, and we can together make the application to what concerns us most — the library interests of to-day.

In any undertaking results depend directly, and often largely, upon the perfection of organization. Organization implies a mind which can grasp the undertaking as a whole, follow it out step by step in detail, estimate the various factors, personal and impersonal, provide for unforeseen contingencies, and furnish the faith, the will-power, the personal magnetism, whatever you choose to call it, in such measure as is needed to carry it through. Such a mind sees the end at the beginning, and thinks of it as already done while to others it may seem far off and even impossible. Such thought, often the work of one mind, sometimes the result of co-operation, is behind every piece of accomplished work. Other elements may doubtless be essential, but there can be no adequate results without organization. And, making allowance for other elements, the perfection of results depends upon the perfection of organization. . . .

For, the reason of this tendency we have not far to seek. I believe it is found in the scientific spirit of the age, which is surely per-

* Part of a paper by Miss Cutler read before the Pennsylvania Library Club.

vading every sphere of human thought and activity. The careful investigation of facts, the deduction of the law from the phenomena, the distrust of chance and the loyalty to the law deduced, all of which evidence the scientific spirit, mark alike the great financier, diplomatist, inventor, philanthropist.

In some undertakings organization alone will suffice. For example, making a machine, laying out a railroad, compiling a volume of statistics. In others there must needs come in what I will call the human element, the consideration of people, not in masses, but as individuals, that matchless, indescribable quality which we call human sympathy. . . .

Illustrations might be multiplied in educational, religious, and philanthropic efforts where we work for the masses, and forget that each one of the mass is a human being with passions, sensibilities, aspirations like our own. This interest in the human as such, which is a gift to some, can be cultivated, but it can never be simulated. The counterfeit always rings false. Joined to a good memory for names and faces, it gives a person a power which can hardly be estimated. . . .

It seems to me that these two principles apply with tremendous and unusual force to the problems of the modern library. I will speak of the public library alone because it has a wider reach and a closer touch on life.

We will review in imagination the library situation in this country. We take up Mr. Flint's Statistics volume for 1893; we sum up 593 free libraries in the New England states, 520 in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, 285 in the Southern states, 758 in the Western states, a total of 2156 free libraries.

We recall our friends in the American Library Association, who constitute with some marked exceptions, who prefer to work alone, the high-water mark of the fraternity. As their names pass before us we take a measure of the men and women. We think of their libraries which we may have visited, or, better still, which we have used as readers. In some few cases we know the influence of these libraries in the town or city. Take it for all in all we find a body of hard-working men and women translating into practice noble ideals. As a result, the library is beginning to get a hold upon the community. But it is only a beginning and, compared with the possibilities, only a prophecy of what may and will be. Are not the failures in our work due to the lack of the best organization and the true human touch?

A librarian is appointed, let us say, to an important post. He has doubtless had experience in library work. He comes on to consult with the trustees. They vote to send him on a trip for getting ideas from other libraries. He probably has on his hands a beautiful building illy adapted to library work. He carries the plans with him, and spends most of the time with other members of the craft, in choosing the least of several evils in placing the reference-room, catalog, charging-desk, etc. He

secures two or three assistants with training, experience, or both, and fills the minor places with local help chosen by examination or by luck or by personal favor. He learns in a general way the character of the town and selects books with that in view. If there are certain manufacturing interests or a particular foreign population, he makes large purchases in those lines. He decides on a system of classification, of cataloging, and on a method of charging. The books are rushed through the various processes, though all too slowly for an impatient public. In a few months at the latest the big educational plant begins to be utilized.

The circulation surprises the most sanguine, the average of fiction drops a little below the usual mark, good service is done at the information or reference desk by the enthusiastic man or woman having it in charge, work is begun with the schools, and a little fraction of teachers make the children know books because they know books themselves. The rest go through the motions. The bookworm fills his corner, the chronic grumbler has his little say, the usual number of prize questions are answered. The library becomes the very bread of life to those who are ready to receive it, and gives refreshment and suggestion and inspiration to many more. The profession approves. At the next A. L. A. meeting Mr. — is brought forward more prominently, and the wise ones say, "I always thought he was a rising man."

But only 20 per cent. of the population ever set foot within the library, and when a stranger asks the way within a block of the building, a fairly intelligent-looking workman does not appear to know there is such a thing as the public library.

In looking over the proceedings of the library association for the 18 years of its existence, we are struck by the evidences of industry and earnestness. There are papers and discussions on libraries and schools, access to the shelves, bookbinding, systems of classification, cataloging rules. The keynote is co-operation in securing, with an enthusiasm which amounts to missionary zeal, the best and most uniform methods, with special reference to mechanical devices. The very motto smacks of arithmetic and commerce. "The best reading for the largest number at the least cost." All this is good and proper in its place. Wise methods are essential to the best results. But we sought in vain all along the years for the philosophic insight which should grasp the higher motive of our profession and connect it with the great struggles of our modern life. After the Columbus year in the clearer air of the mountain-top, the word for which we were waiting came. I wish it were possible to stop right here and give you the papers of Mr. Larned and Mr. Brett, which were read at Lake Placid, as well as the discussion which followed. I must content myself by quoting Mr. Larned's last sentence: "Those of us who have faith in the future of democracy can only hold our faith fast by believing that the knowl-

edge of the learned, the wisdom of the thoughtful, the conscience of the upright, will some day be common enough to prevail, always, over every factious folly and every mischievous movement that evil minds or ignorance can set astrife. When that blessed time of victory shall have come, there will be many to share the glory of it; but none among them will rank rightly before those who have led and inspired the work of the public libraries."

This leads to the first great need of the profession to-day, that the librarian should be in the noblest sense a large man, that he should add to executive and business ability and technical knowledge a broad and generous culture in Matthew Arnold's sense of the word, "An inward spiritual activity, having for its character increased sweetness, increased light, increased life, increased sympathy." He must be an omnivorous reader, skimming many books, and knowing by instinct which books and which chapters and sentences to read carefully. He must study from books and in life the great industrial, social, and religious questions which stir our age. He must be a scholar without pedantry, a man of the world without indifference, a friend of the people without sentimentality.

There follows naturally the second necessity, that the librarian should be a careful student of his own town. He should know its history and topography, its social, political, business, literary, and ecclesiastical life. To this end he should have a personal acquaintance with the city officers, the party bosses, the labor leaders, members of the board of trade, manufacturers, leading women in society, with the clergy, with the school superintendent and the teachers, with those who shape the charitable organizations, with reporters, policemen, and reformers.

To what end? Broadly, that he may catch the spirit of the civic life and relate the library to the whole as the organs to the body. Specifically, that he may reach the entire population through the natural leaders, that he may select books, establish branches, open up new avenues of communication between the library and the people.

The church may be aristocratic, industry, trade, and politics a war, the public school like the drinking-fountain, though planned for the many scorned by the few. I believe it is possible for a man with a broad and sympathetic knowledge of our age and an intimate knowledge of his own city, to make of the public library the one common meeting-place, the real focus of democratic ideas. The church and the school will reach this in the future, the library may achieve it to-day.

There is a third difficulty, which is a very real and palpable one. The librarian himself may have a fairly high ideal of the library which is shared by perhaps one or two assistants. The bulk of the work in a library with a large circulation is done by young persons of less opportunity and training. Each has a distinct part of the work to do with little

idea of its relation to the whole. Unfortunately the loan-desk, registration-desk, and reading-room are usually manned in this way. I have often stood amazed at the delivery-desk of librarians whose names represent all that is best in the library profession. I would not be understood as depreciating the work of the lower assistants in our libraries. I know well that this service, as a whole, represents an amount of faithfulness and devotion which it ill becomes me to undervalue. The responsibility lies with the head of the library and the failure comes from lack of organization. The appointing power should be practically in his hands. The man whom we have described above does not need to seek this power. It comes to him. It is surely possible to secure for the library service young men and women, boys and girls, of fair intelligence, quick wits, responsive minds, and human sympathies. The making of these units into an organism is the severest test of a librarian's power. The ability of a general is not enough. He must himself have the real human touch or he cannot call it forth from others. There must be the promptness, the accuracy, the despatch which marks military discipline; there must be also an intelligent conception of the purpose of the library, a strong sense of personal responsibility and of the dignity and beauty of the public service. It is sometimes said that the spirit of the library should be that of a merchant and his well-trained clerks, anxious to please their customers. It should be rather the fine spirit of a hostess with the daughters of the house about her greeting her guests.

There is a fourth failure which is perhaps the root difficulty. It is the failure to make the most of time. The day opens. The man hastens to his place and finds a score of voices calling him to as many different tasks. He hastily begins the one which seems to call the loudest, and has just begun to gather up the threads of thought when there is a peremptory call in another direction. And so he is driven through the day, not controlling, but controlled, and constantly lashed by the thought of neglected duties. By dint of keeping at it all through the day and often into the night much work is done. The man gets and deserves the reputation of a hard-working man, deliberately sacrificing health, ease, leisure, and the joys of a scholar's life for the public good.

Now this is the first and natural result of the enlarged conception of a librarian's work. The man is dazed by the sense of responsibility and almost crushed by the demands upon his time apparently separate and conflicting. But this should be considered only the first process from which the strong man will speedily evolve a wiser way. The fatal mistake lies in considering this first stage inevitable and final. If a man tarries here it argues limitation, not power. There certainly are men who stand high in public life as well as those holding less prominent positions, who accomplish an enormous amount of work with a sense of freedom and an impression of leisure. As I

have observed individual cases, I am led to the conclusion that the explanation lies not in a stronger physique, or a stronger intellect, but in a better organization of work with reference to time. There is no need more imperative than this for all of us who are proud to be called busy people. The trouble is, we think we are too busy to stop and plan. Our philosophic error lies in believing that the work must all be done to-day. Nature herself should teach us that the best work cannot be done in a hurry.

We may not hope in this generation to understand well the working of that complex, mysterious thing which we call human society, but we may at least so relate ourselves and our libraries to it that we may live, move, and grow together.

"Not unrelated, unaffied,
But to each thought and thing allied,
Is perfect Nature's every part
Rooted in the mighty Heart."

MARY S. CUTLER.

THE REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.

FOLLOWING is the text of the report of the Librarian of Congress for 1895, dated May 28, 1896, and recently published:

"The librarian respectfully submits herewith his annual report, embracing a summary of the increase of the library and the business of the copyright office during the calendar year closing December 31, 1895.

"His estimate of the aggregate number of volumes in the library in the various apartments in which they are still widely scattered is 731,441 volumes, besides about 230,000 pamphlets. The increase over the year preceding is 20,971 volumes.

"The large copyright business of the library has continued to increase, notwithstanding the continued commercial and industrial depression. This increase is due in part to the gradual additions made to the foreign publications entered for copyright under the act of 1891, providing for international copyright. The privilege of American copyright now extends to the citizens or subjects of nine foreign governments, namely, Great Britain and her dependencies, France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark.

"The new entries of copyright during the year 1895 were 67,572 of all varieties of publications, being an increase of 4810 entries over the year preceding. The amount of fees on account of copyright received and paid into the Treasury was \$52,282.55, being an increase of \$2880.80 over the receipts of the calendar year 1894.

"The table following shows the number and designation of each class of publications entered for copyright during the past year:

Number of copyright articles entered in 1895.

Books (including all publications entered as such).....	20,311
Periodicals.....	12,155
Musical compositions.....	18,563
Dramatic compositions.....	827

Photographs.....	4,572
Engravings.....	1,856
Lithographs.....	754
Chromos.....	93
Prints.....	1,880
Cuts.....	826
Designs.....	1,669
Drawings.....	179
Paintings.....	1,592
Statuary.....	47
Maps.....	1,432
Charts.....	816
Total.....	67,572

"It should be stated in explanation of the apparently large number of entries under the head of 'Books' that this designation embraces of necessity very large numbers of printed publications not actually in book form, such as articles in newspapers and other periodicals, sheets of printed matter, etc., which are entered as books, from the lack of any more accurate designation in the copyright law.

"The number of copyright publications deposited was approximately as follows:

Books (including all publications entered as such).....	15,121
Periodicals.....	10,492
Musical compositions.....	15,271
Dramatic compositions.....	330
Photographs.....	5,487
Engravings.....	1,230
Lithographs.....	520
Chromos.....	72
Prints and cuts.....	290
Designs and drawings.....	340
Maps.....	1,265
Charts.....	648
Total.....	51,066

"The deposit of two copies of each publication protected by copyright being required by law (except as to paintings and statuary), the actual receipts at the library (including duplicates) aggregated about 102,132 copyright publications of all classes.

"The preparation of the weekly catalogue of copyright publications actually deposited, for issue by the Secretary of the Treasury under the provisions of the international copyright act of 1891, has been prompt and regular during the year.

"The absolute need of additional clerical force, as well as a provision for a register or recording officer of copyrights, relieving the Librarian of Congress from this great bureau of detail, is again respectfully urged upon the attention of Congress."

"This subject, as well as that of the reorganization of the library force and the necessary provision for the administration of the library in the new building, now nearly completed, has been fully set forth in the special report of the undersigned, laid before Congress at the beginning of the present session, in December, 1895, and heretofore printed. Reference is here made to that report, without recapitulation, and its recommendations are repeated. The great progress made during the year in the interior construction of the new library building, as set forth in the annual report of the chief of engineers in December last, justifies the expectation that the removal of the library may be effected during the early spring of 1897."

ENOCH PRATT.

ON Thursday evening, September 17, 1896, Enoch Pratt, the founder of the great library which bears his name, died at his country home, Tivoli, near Baltimore; and there was closed the long career of a remarkable man.

Enoch Pratt, son of Isaac and Naomi (Keith) Pratt, was born at North Middleborough, Mass., September 10, 1808. His parental ancestor was Phineas Pratt, who came to Plymouth, Mass., in 1623, on the ship *Ann*. His mother was a descendant of Rev. James Keith, who, coming from Scotland in 1662, settled at Bridgewater, Mass. Enoch Pratt graduated from the Bridgewater Academy at the age of 15, and soon after obtained a position in a business house in Boston, where he supplemented his native industry and activity with a thorough commercial training.

In 1831 Mr. Pratt came to Baltimore with \$150, and began business as a commission merchant. The same year he established the wholesale iron-house of Pratt & Keith, changed in 1842 to E. Pratt & Bro. From the day he came to Baltimore to within a few days of his death—for a period of 65 years—he never lost his interest in, nor his grip on, his vast business affairs.

His business prospered from the beginning, and he was soon engaged in the carrying forward of large enterprises and in the direction of financial institutions. Banks, insurance companies, steamboat lines, railroads, street railways, large manufacturing establishments, all received a share of his attention. He was closely identified with the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad from the beginning, and for 27 years served as vice-president of the company. For nearly 60 years he was a director, and for 36 years president, of the National Farmers' and Planters' Bank. He was also president, for many years, of the Baltimore Clearing House Association. He contributed much toward the making of Baltimore a great commercial city.

In business matters Mr. Pratt's advice was sought by both public officials and by private citizens. Although a Republican in politics, for a score of years Democratic mayors and city councils elected and retained him as one of the finance commissioners of the city, and during that time he determined the city's financial policy. He always advised against speculation, and he followed his own advice.

Mr. Pratt, however, was never wholly absorbed in the pursuit of wealth. He took a great interest in the affairs of the Maryland Institute for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts. For many years he was a trustee and treasurer of the Peabody Institute of Baltimore, and George Peabody spoke of him as one of the ablest financiers he had ever known. Mr. Pratt was a liberal contributor to, and president of, both the House of Reformation for Colored Children, at Cheltenham, Md., and the Maryland School for the Deaf and Dumb, at Fredrick. A few years ago he gave the Maryland Academy of Sciences the building it now

occupies, the former home of the Maryland Club.

In a letter, dated Baltimore, January 20, 1865, Mr. Pratt offered the trustees of the academy of his native town in Massachusetts an endowment to make the school free to all living within certain limits. The gift, amounting in all to over \$30,000, was accepted, and the act incorporating the Pratt Free School was passed March 10, 1865.

But Enoch Pratt is not known to the world at large as a man who accumulated millions of dollars, nor is he best remembered in Baltimore as a man of affairs, banker, and financier. He is known to the world, and remembered by those who live in the city he loved so well, as the founder of "The Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore City." The story of this library has been told before in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, but it may be new to some of the *JOURNAL*'s readers.

The members of the A. L. A. who were present at the meeting in Baltimore in 1892 may remember Mr. Pratt's speech, in which he told them how it was supposed by some, when he began the work on the central library building in 1882, that it was to be a can factory, and by others a colored orphan asylum. His letter to the mayor and city council, under date of January 21, 1882, put an end to all speculation. In the letter he stated his purpose to erect a central library building (capable of holding 200,000 volumes) and branches in the four quarters of the city, all to be under the same management. "The central building is to cost about \$225,000, and is to be deeded to the city." "The title of all the books and property is to be vested in the city, and I will pay to your honorable body, upon its completion, the additional sum of \$833,333.33, making \$1,058,333.33, provided the city will grant and create an annuity of \$50,000 per annum forever, payable quarterly to the board of trustees, for the support and maintenance of the library and its branches." There were to be nine trustees, selected, in the first instance, by the founder, and all vacancies were to be filled by the board—a close corporation. The founder further stated that "the articles of incorporation will contain a provision that no trustee or officer shall be appointed or removed on religious or political grounds." The letter closed as follows:

"The plan proposed for the support and management of the library is the result of long and careful consideration, and, I am satisfied, is well adapted to promote the great object in view—the free circulation of the books of a large and ever-growing library among the people of the whole city. I trust that it will receive the approval of your honorable body and of the citizens of Baltimore."

The trustees were incorporated by the legislature March 30, 1882, and the citizens, by a large majority of the popular vote, accepted the offer October 25 of the same year. The library was formally transferred to the board of trustees October 1, 1884, and the account shows that the founder paid \$1,145,833.33 for the annuity of \$50,000. Lewis H. Steiner, M.D., was

appointed librarian November 5, 1884, and the first books were purchased February 25, 1885. The library was formally opened to the public January 4, 1886, with 20,000 volumes on the shelves in the central building. A few weeks later the four branch buildings were opened. The fifth branch was opened November 4, 1888, and the sixth will be opened early in November of this year. The erection of this sixth branch he watched with the keenest interest, and he hoped that he might live to see it opened to the public. Only a few days before his death he spoke of the number and kind of chairs and tables he thought there ought to be in its reading-room.

Mr. Pratt was a great believer in the system of branch libraries, and he always encouraged the most liberal purchase of books for them. He believed that the library should go to the people, and that in the future the great work of the institution must be done through the branches.

Dr. Lewis H. Steiner, the first librarian, died February 18, 1892, and on March 1 his son, Dr. Bernard C. Steiner, the present librarian, was appointed.

In its brief history the library has registered over 80,000 borrowers; nearly 35,000 borrowers' cards are now in use; 170,000 volumes are on its shelves; and it has circulated more than 5,000,000 books.

It is hardly necessary to say that the founder directed the policy of the board of trustees of "his" library, and that he took great pleasure in the work it is doing. But much as its growth and success delighted him, he often said he was even more pleased to know that his example was influential in the founding of libraries throughout the country, and in calling the attention of the world to the value of a free circulating library to a community and to one of the best ways of utilizing wealth.

Mr. Pratt considered his provision for the library complete, as is shown by his will. He gives \$400,000 to his wife, absolutely. She is also to receive the income of \$100,000 during her life, after which the principal is to go to the Meadville Theological School, a Unitarian institution at Meadville, Pa. He leaves \$10,000 to the Boys' Home Society of Baltimore, \$10,000 as an endowment fund for the public library of his native town, North Middleborough, Mass., \$5000 to the Congregational Church of the same place, and about \$25,000 in a number of small personal bequests.

The residue of his estate, estimated to be worth from one to two million dollars, is left to the trustees of the Sheppard Asylum, an institution near Baltimore, founded in 1858; provided, however, that the name of the corporation be changed to the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital. Otherwise, the residue is to go to a niece and five nephews in Massachusetts. There is nothing in the charter of the Sheppard Asylum to prevent the change of name.

Mr. Pratt was married to Miss Maria Louisa Hyde, of Baltimore, August 1, 1837. They have no children. He was a member of the Unitarian church.

S: H. R.

IN MEMORIAM—BESSIE RUTHERFORD MACKY.

Presented at the meeting of the N. Y. State Library School Association, Cleveland, Oct. 3, 1896.

THE New York State Library School Association hereby records its deep sense of loss in the death of Bessie Rutherford Macky, of the class of 1892. Miss Macky was assistant librarian and instructor of the library training class at the Drexel Institute, in Philadelphia, for more than three years. She died at her home in that city, April 4, 1896, after an illness of some months.

After her graduation at Wellesley College in 1889, and two years spent at the school in Albany, Miss Macky went at once to the Drexel Institute and gave herself to the service of that library and of those library students as long as her strength permitted. Those who knew her will not need to be told that this simple statement stands for a whole-hearted, unceasing, self-forgetting devotion that enabled her to accomplish more than others could have done in a longer time. She was conscientious, ready, resourceful, quick, and exact as a librarian, and inspiring as a teacher. She could neither slight her work nor leave it undone. But her strength was not equal to the demands of her resolute, untiring spirit, and she fell by the way.

She was a friend who will be greatly missed. Entirely simple and unassuming in manner, she had a cheerful and cordial good-will, a bright wit, a generous sympathy, a spirit of comradeship that greatly endeared her to those who enjoyed her intimate acquaintance. She made no complaints. Even when compelled to admit the fact of her failing health she continued bright and hopeful to the end. She found rest at last, leaving substantial fruits of her brief service in those that she has helped to train, and the memory of her brave and unselfish life will remain among the treasures of this association.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

Prof. Hiram Corson in "The voice and spiritual education."

IN choosing reading-matter for the young, special preference should be given to such stories as serve to awaken the imagination, exercise the sympathies, and nourish a lively and joyous enthusiasm. I should wholly exclude explicitly moral and religious stories, and should choose in their stead stories of human sympathy and sacrifice, heroic endurance, and unconscious virtue (*conscious* virtue is always weak), fairy tales, and legends gay and sad. A child of healthful, unperverted feelings is averse to moral and religious books as a class. It would rather read about Robinson Crusoe and his faithful man Friday, and it is far better it should have such preference—far better that it should live, while a child,

In the golden prime
Of good Haroun Alraschid,

instead of being prematurely crammed with, to it, lifeless moral and religious principles, "useful" knowledge, and the sciences.

PRINCETON'S SESQUICENTENNIAL AND NEW LIBRARY BUILDING.

THE 150th anniversary of the founding of the College of New Jersey, or Princeton College as it is commonly called, is being celebrated as this number goes to press. The occasion is one of a good deal of ceremony, and is attended by representatives of a large number of colleges and universities from abroad as well as at home. The college assumes at this time the name of university, and receives a large increase of endowment to strengthen its already well-developed university character, and to expand it. One of the first and most notable fruits of the effort to increase university facilities has been provision for a new library building and increased endowment for the library.

The building, which is now in process of erection, will consist of delivery, stack, work, and seminar rooms, the Chancellor Green Library already furnishing admirable reading-room facilities. It will cost about \$600,000.

The name of the donor or donors has not yet been made public. The architect is Mr. W. A. Potter, of New York. The contractors are Messrs. Norcross Bros. for the building, the Library Bureau for the stack and furnishings. The building is designed to be a hollow rectangle 166 x 155 ft., the sides being about 40 feet through (36 ft. inside), with a neck 50 x 25 feet ground measure connecting with the Chancellor Green Library, and containing delivery and card catalog room, entrance to the library being into this room from both sides. The total dimensions are, therefore, 216 x 155 ft.

The stack is to be of five stories, one being below the level of the delivery-room and one of the same level. The corners of the quadrangle are occupied by work and seminar rooms, the corner nearest the old library work-rooms being devoted wholly to library offices. These consist of three on the lower floor: librarian's room, small room for typewriter, and a large one for ordering and reception department. These rooms connect by electric elevator with three corresponding rooms above which comprise the cataloging, classification, and shelf departments. The third floor contains two rooms to be used for pamphlet department. Provision for printing and binding departments is made under the delivery-room. A considerable section of the stack floor on level with the delivery-room is to be fitted up with exhibition cases and finished in oak, forming an exhibition-room which can be extended as need requires.

The whole building is fitted with electric elevators, book-lifts, pneumatic tubes, interior telephones, etc. In addition to the seminar rooms there are provided and furnished, at intervals in the stack, spaces for the use of those who may be admitted to work in the stack.

Much minute attention has been given by the committee, especially by Messrs. M. Taylor Pyne, and Junius S. Morgan, of New York, to the practical working out of the plans, and, with the cordial co-operation of the architect, it is believed that a result has been at-

tained which is thoroughly practical from the librarian's point of view as well as the art standpoint. In some cases local conditions or architectural exigencies have modified the normal type, but these modifications were carefully considered and compensation made. Practical matters of light and ventilation have been carefully considered. The plans were examined and approved by various library and architectural experts before they were adopted, and all precautions were taken to make the plans practical as well as beautiful.

The capacity of the building is 1,000,000 volumes. The style of architecture is distinctly reminiscent of English universities, and lends itself, on the whole, admirably to the purposes of the modern stack system.

THE MASSACHUSETTS LISTS OF SELECT FICTION.

THE Massachusetts Library Club has issued the following notice regarding the "Lists of select fiction" issued by it during the past year:

"The answers to the questions in our March issue, and the number of paid subscriptions, prove that the 'List of select fiction' is useful to many libraries, especially to the smaller ones. It is with regret, therefore, that we are obliged to announce that its publication must be suspended for the present. The cost of printing and transportation of books to and from readers is beyond the unaided resources of the Massachusetts Library Club. There is also difficulty in securing the services of competent readers who are willing and able to give time to this work.

"It is hoped that some method may be devised by which these obstacles may be overcome, and that the preparation and publication of the lists may be continued."

These lists have been issued since September, 1895, and each month from ten to two dozen books have been recommended for purchase by public libraries. The figures for the year are: books read 395, books recommended 160. The work has been in charge of a permanent committee of 17, consisting of a chairman (G. M. Jones) and secretary (Miss N. E. Browne) and 15 readers, divided into sub-committees of three members.

BOOKS AND THEIR USES.

THERE is rather an interesting story in connection with a recent gift to the Stinnette Maryland Episcopal Library, popularly known as the Whittingham Memorial Library, maintained by the Diocese of Maryland. The gift in question was made by Miss Fannie A. Dalrymple, of Baltimore, and consisted of 8000 volumes, the library of her brother the late Rev. Dr. E. A. Dalrymple. Dr. Dalrymple had originally intended that his collection should go to the library of the Protestant Episcopal Seminary at Alexandria, Va. On a visit to the seminary, however, he noticed that books were used as props for holding windows open, and on his return promptly altered his decision as to the disposal of his own collection.

Library Association of the United Kingdom.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1896.

THE 19th annual conference of the Library Association of the United Kingdom was held this year at Buxton, Eng., for three days, Sept. 1-3. At the Cardiff meeting of 1895 an invitation to Leeds was accepted for the present year, but arrangements fell through and Buxton was finally selected. It was a thoroughly successful gathering, with a practical and interesting program, a large attendance, and no lack of helpful discussion; and the experiment of meeting in a pleasant health resort, instead of in a large city, was found an agreeable innovation.

The conference was opened at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, in the town-hall at Buxton, Mr. F. T. Barrett presiding. The election of Alderman Harry Rawson, ex-chairman of the Manchester Public Libraries, to the office of president was then announced, and Mr. Rawson was called to the chair.

The president's opening address, while referring specifically to the record of library development in Manchester, was an interesting general review of what had been done in the library field within the twelvemonth. The library with whose administration he was connected was not, he said, the first free library in Manchester, for a wise and liberal merchant prince more than 250 years ago founded an institution which had been an exemplar to a number of similar benefactors. Humphrey Chetham, whose library was opened free to the public on the 5th of August, 1656, has had in recent times very worthy successors in Mr. Henry Tate, Mr. Andrew Carnegie, Mrs. Rylands, Mr. Passmore Edwards, and others. During the year about £100,000 have been expended in donations of money, gifts of books, and library buildings erected or enlarged, and during the same period no fewer than 50 public free libraries have been projected, founded, or opened in the United Kingdom. At the present time Manchester and Salford possess half a million of volumes of books for the free use of the inhabitants. During the year the official organ of the association—the *Library*—has rendered valuable services to bibliography and library economy. The preparation of the draft bill to amend the acts relating to public libraries and museums had involved no little labor. It contained many excellent provisions, some of them equally new and important. That it had not been placed before Parliament arose from the fact that government bills had crowded out all the attempts of private members. The efforts made by the council to secure a charter of incorporation were likely to be crowned with success. No more important task was before the association than the instruction and training of future librarians, and the work of the summer school would surely command the warm sympathy and approval of all the members. The result of the appeal on the part of the Manchester Free Libraries

Committee before the highest court of the realm against the commissioners of inland revenue, who claimed income tax, under schedule A of the Income Tax Act, 1842, on the annual value of four library buildings in Manchester, was one highly gratifying to the corporation of that city. He hoped the association would widen its borders and augment its usefulness, and that the public free libraries of the United Kingdom might take an ever-increasing share in the great works of promoting the education of the people and their moral and social advancement.

The report of the council was then presented. It showed a present membership of 535, and summarized the action taken in regard to the incorporation of the association and the revision of the constitution, decided upon at the Cardiff meeting of 1895. This revision, as far as could be judged from a short experience, seemed to prove that the new constitution would introduce many improvements in the business arrangements. Arising out of the new constitution was the question of elections to the newly created fellowship of the association. The council were authorized at once to elect all eligible members, and after careful deliberation decided that they would content themselves with electing to the fellowship only the present and past presidents of the association. It was felt that the fellowship should be a distinction in the library world, and that it should be conferred in future on but a limited number. Drafts of the proposed charter of incorporation and of the petition to the crown had been prepared and presented, and it was hoped that the decision would be favorable. The only special publication of the year had been the "Guide to the adoption of the acts," by Mr. Fovargue, a clear and condensed exposition of all that needed to be known by persons desiring to get the acts adopted anywhere; 22 places had adopted the acts since the last annual meeting. Announcement was made that some 300 members of the American Library Association proposed to visit England in 1897 and it was resolved that the occasion should be taken to hold an international conference in London in July. Invitations to the conference would be sent to all important libraries throughout the world. The treasurer's report and accounts were also submitted, and further consideration of the report was deferred to a business meeting on Thursday.

Mr. T. C. Abbot, deputy chairman of the Manchester Free Libraries Committee, then read a paper on "The relations of public libraries to other educational institutions," pointing out the necessity of each town or district having its public library, with accommodation for reading and study apart from the general public reading-room. He advocated the compulsory establishment of public libraries, and the provision of technical works over and beyond the requirements of the average reader so as to render libraries serviceable to more advanced students. A discussion followed, in which the relation between school boards and libraries was specially dwelt upon.

Mr. William Crowther, of Derby, followed with a paper on "Chatsworth and its library," in view of the visit which the association was to pay on Friday to the "Palace of the Peak." A tribute was paid to its owners for their enlightened interest in books, special reference being made to the gem of the whole collection, the "*Liber Veritatis*," of which Louis XIV. vainly endeavored to get possession.

This was succeeded by a review of "The literary and antiquarian interests of Buxton," by Mr. T. A. Sargent, of the Buxton Public Library.

"Days vs. issues; or, reading as measured by time," was the subject presented by Mr. Minto, of the Perth Public Library, who contended that to state that a book had been taken out a certain number of times, or that a certain number of volumes had been borrowed in one class as against so many in another class was to state but a part of the facts of circulation. The length of time the volumes borrowed remained in use in the borrowers' hands, and the time they lay on the shelves of the library unasked for, should not be overlooked. The number of one writer's works as compared with those of a more prolific neighbor, the number of copies of each of them in the library, and the comparative length of the works were points that had very frequently been lost sight of in making comparisons. He gave statistics, from an experiment he had made in these directions, which showed how necessary it was to modify the current notions as to the patronage of lighter literature in contrast with that of a more enduring character.

The afternoon session was opened with a brief account by Mr. Axon, of Manchester, of an English and Welsh translation from Martial, printed by John Awdeley at London in 1571, of which the only known copy is in the Chetham Library, Manchester. This was followed by a paper on "Suggested lines of study for students of modern bibliography," by Mr. Frank Campbell, of the British Museum, who strongly urged the importance of adopting a common system of terminology.

The first paper presented at the session of Wednesday morning was by Dr. W. A. Copinger, of Manchester, on "Some 15th century mss. and printed editions of the '*Imitatio Christi*.'" It was illustrated by six mss. of the "*Imitatio*," four of which were written in the lifetime of the author, and the others in the 15th century, and by examples of 20 or 30 printed editions published before 1500. Among these were the *editio princeps* printed by Zainer about 1471, and the edition of the first book printed about 1484. Dr. Copinger dealt with the considerations which had brought him to the conclusion that the Zainer edition was the first. He also referred to the question of authorship, and gave it as his opinion that the case had been almost entirely determined in favor of Thomas à Kempis.

Mr. H. W. Fovargue, town clerk of Eastbourne and honorary solicitor to the association, gave a lucid and comprehensive exposition

of "Library law: notes on the administration of the acts, and some desirable amendments." He pointed out that the amending bill, now in Sir John Lubbock's hands, would exempt library authorities and their officials from all liability for any libel contained in any books on their shelves, unless they wilfully persisted in circulating the book after notice and commencement of an action. A clause should be introduced into the bill with a view of bringing libraries as well as literary and scientific institutions within the act of 1843, so as to obtain exemption from local rates. Another desirable amendment was a provision that where a council failed to adopt the acts after requisition the question should be submitted to the voters, and the poll should in all cases be taken by ballot, and not by means of voting papers distributed from house to house. A long discussion followed, and the inadequacy of the penny rate was strongly urged.

Mr. W. R. Credland, of Manchester, in a paper on "The provision of village libraries by county councils," said that the penny rate hindered more than it helped. Had this restriction never been imposed, scarcely any town or district in the kingdom would, by this time, have been without its public library, and the present number of 300 rate-supported libraries would have been increased. Rural life in country districts should be brightened by reading-rooms and an ample supply of good books. In the course of the discussion which followed, Mr. J. J. Ogle, of Bootle, gave details respecting three villages in Scotland which had adopted the acts. Alderman Frank Debenham, of the London County Council, thought that the initiative should be left to the villages, and the Duchess of Rutland, who with the Duke was present during the reading of the paper, said that she placed great reliance on the working men and villagers themselves. Once get them interested in the library, and there was no doubt of success. In order to spread a desire for books and a taste for reading in rural parishes individual effort was absolutely necessary. Good books could now be purchased for very little money, and it would be well if some system of exchange of books among village libraries could be devised, in order to introduce a greater variety of literature.

"Some observations on the Dewey classification and notation" were then presented by Mr. T. W. Lyster, of the National Library of Ireland, who explained the advantages and principles of the decimal system. This gave rise to a lively discussion. A more rigorous follower of Mr. Dewey, Mr. W. E. Hoyle, of the Manchester Museum, criticised certain modifications suggested by Mr. Lyster. The Rev. W. H. Milman explained the decimal system tempered by Brunet, which he had found convenient to adopt at Sion College. Mr. Welch said that he used the Dewey system in classifying the London collection at the Guildhall. Mr. Madeley, Mr. J. B. Bailey, and Mr. H. R. Tedder pointed out some defects of the system, and even the defenders of the classification ad-



GEORGE WATSON COLE,
Treasurer A. L. A.



RUTHERFORD P. HAYES,
Secretary A. L. A.



GARDNER M. JONES,
Recorder A. L. A.

mitted its philistinism in certain departments — for instance, those of philology and literature.

Mr. Stanley Jast, of Peterborough, read a paper on "The revival of the class list," in which he dealt with its advantages over the alphabetical catalog arranged under authors' names; and "The free library movement in the Staffordshire potteries and in Newcastle-under-Lyme" was discussed in a paper by Mr. A. J. Caddie, of Stoke-on-Trent.

At a special evening session the report of the council and the accompanying accounts were adopted.

Thursday's session was opened with a discussion on "The selection of books for a reference library," introduced by Mr. F. T. Barrett, of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, who said that the selector should forget personal preference for any particular line, and view his task in a spirit of the widest comprehension. Universality should be the first aim, after which an approximate proportion between the different branches of literature represented should be sought. Any attempt to proceed on perfectly symmetrical lines, however, would be in vain, but the principle was of value though the ideal was unattainable. Bibliographies should be largely represented to guide inquirers to the whereabouts of information, original documents, and fac-similes of reprints of them, and first editions should be included. Large libraries ought to contain some books about everything, and as exhaustive a collection on one selected subject as possible. The literature of its own locality should be represented in a library with absolute completeness, as should also that of local industries. A reference library should primarily meet the practical needs of those who paid for its support, but books on the useful arts generally should be well represented, especially if bearing even indirectly on local trades.

The subject of bookbuying was brought up by Mr. Butler Wood, who hoped that booksellers might have kindly consideration at the hands of librarians, and that not more than 30 per cent. discount might be demanded. He rarely found any profit in library orders, but rather than lose patronage he sometimes reluctantly offered 33 per cent. discount. In Bradford such a sweating process was discountenanced by distributing orders subject to 30 per cent. discount to the principal local booksellers.

Mr. Welch, of the Guildhall Library, London, said that booksellers, if treated liberally and generously, would treat librarians in the same way, readily sending books on approval, which was a distinct advantage. Not more than 25 per cent. discount, he thought, should be expected. Mr. MacAlister, honorary secretary, found it worked well to regard the bookseller as an unsalaried assistant. He himself never took more than 20 per cent. discount, and was sent large parcels of books on approval which could be examined at leisure. Mr. Briscoe, of Nottingham, said that the highest experts were very willing to give their assistance in the choice of books, the only refusal he had

met with coming from Mr. Herbert Spencer, on the ground that public libraries were communistic institutions.

Mr. E. Howarth, of Sheffield, secretary of the Museums' Association, introduced a motion urging a more liberal policy in the distribution of government publications. He requested the association to join the Museums' Association in asking that the publications of the Geological Survey and the maps of the Ordnance Survey of each district might be represented to the local museum and library. A resolution was unanimously passed that joint action should be taken.

The president then announced the receipt of a telegram from the American Library Association, in session at Cleveland, O., offering greetings and accepting the invitation to the International Conference in July, 1897. A cordial reply was cabled to the association, and the proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the president.

The annual dinner of the association took place in the evening. On Friday a party of about 150 visited Chatsworth, and later in the day were received and entertained at Haddon Hall by the Duke and Duchess of Rutland.

American Library Association.

President: W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

Secretary: Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

Treasurer: G. W. Cole, 473 Jersey Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1896-97.

WILLIAM H. BRETTE, *President.*

MR. BRETTE entered the ranks of the A. L. A. at the Lake George Conference in 1885, and for nearly a dozen years he has helped to make its history. He has always given his energies first of all to the "humanities" in library work, as distinguished from the technical side. To be sure, the Cleveland Public Library Catalogue has long been a guide and a model, and now the "Cumulative index to periodicals" promises to the library world a realization of the unattainable in indexing; but to Mr. Brett's mind the public must always be the chief factor in the life of the public library. His first utterance in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, 12 years ago, was a plea for more children's books for his own library and an earnest statement of the dangers that lie in the dime-novel and its congeners; and his library administration has illustrated his own doctrine, that "to the education of the citizen in his private capacity, to increasing his intelligence and capacity for affairs, to enhancing his value to society, the whole library is subservient." Those who, among the Adirondack pines, heard his presentation of "The present problem," carried away with them a clearer and fuller realization of the duty that the library owes the state and the part it can take in the

promotion of good citizenship. His belief in plenty of books and plenty of freedom in their use has found practical expression in the system of free access to the shelves, long established in the Cleveland Public Library. There, too, the general circulation of library books among the schools has always been a pet hobby, for which Mr. Brett plans a wider field in the near future. His work has never been limited to his own city; in Ohio the state library association, of which he was first president, and the state library commission owe much to his devotion and enthusiasm, and the files of the *JOURNAL* bear abundant witness to his work in the A. L. A. His conception of his profession was voiced 10 years ago, when he said: "Catalogs, classifications, and charging systems are the warp of the librarian's work, but they are empty and without beauty unless he weaves them throughout with the woof of an ardent love for books, a lofty enthusiasm for his profession, and so sincere an interest in those who use his library that he will spare no pains to help them. The man who can do this work may well feel that there is little else in the world which is better worth the doing." That this was no rhetorical peroration those who count themselves in the host of his friends know well; but they know it by the evidence of works, not words. Of Mr. Brett's place in the collective affections of the A. L. A. there is no need to speak; those who at Cleveland heard the announcement of his election know that its greeting was no superficial demonstration but an inadequate expression of the real feeling of the Association toward its new president.

RUTHERFORD P. HAYES, *Secretary*.

At the Trustees' Section meeting of the Cleveland Conference, Mr. Hayes introduced himself to the A. L. A. as having been for 16 years a trustee of an endowed library, on a board which held two meetings a year, in May and June, respectively. But the library record of Ohio gives him a different "character." Indeed, he is and has been one of the most earnest and energetic of the library workers of the state. It was in 1882 that he was made librarian of the Birchard Library, in Fremont, O., which had been founded and endowed by the uncle of his father, President Hayes, and until 1894 he devoted to its interests most of his spare hours. He conducted a travelling library system of his own in connection with it, sending for an entire winter, boxes of books to a town 14 miles away, and in response to a demand for Sunday opening, he with a few helpers, kept the reading-room open on Sunday afternoons for one winter, the librarian not being asked to render this extra service. He also simplified the library administration, adopted free access as far as practicable, and made attractive provision for the children. When the Ohio Library Association was organized in March, 1895, Mr. Hayes was elected an *ex-officio* adviser and coadjutor to the executive board, and at the first annual meeting in October of that year his paper on "Library co-operation" was an earnest and lucid statement of

what might be accomplished in the library field by united effort. He was active in promoting the passage of the bill establishing a state library commission in Ohio (passed April 22, 1896), which, it is interesting to note, was drawn and introduced into the legislature by another President's son — Mr. Garfield, of Mentor, O. As one of the three members of the commission Mr. Hayes did effective work in the reorganization of the state library, and though the commission is primarily charged with the direction of the state library, there is no question that its influence will be of the greatest value to the general library interests of the state. Mr. Hayes's connection with the A. L. A. is a well-established one, dating from the St. Louis Conference of 1889, when he was Kodaker-in-ordinary to the library party; and he brings to his office a fund of library enthusiasm and a practical knowledge of affairs that make him well fitted to cope with the perplexities and woes that beset the path of the secretary at Conference time.

GEORGE W. COLE, *Treasurer*.

The treasurer of the A. L. A. enters with 1897 upon his fourth year of service in that capacity. First elected to the office at the World's Fair Conference in 1893, his re-election each year since then has been almost a matter of course, and it was an occasion for general congratulation that he was at Cleveland able to resume the duties that for nearly a year had been suspended on account of ill health. Mr. Cole is a contemporary of Mr. Brett in the vital statistics of the A. L. A., he, too, having entered the Association at the Lake George Conference in 1885. He was then at the Fitchburg (Mass.) Public Library, where he produced the catalog that was at once recognized as a model of its kind. Indeed, cataloging and classification have always been his specialties, and the Pratt Institute Library, the Newberry Library, and the Jersey City Library are notable among those that have availed themselves of his technical knowledge and ability. In 1891 he left the Newberry to become librarian of the Jersey City Free Public Library, where he remained in charge until December last, when serious illness obliged him to resign the post. After prolonged rest and change of scene he has returned to the library ranks, ready to take fresh and energetic hold. Mr. Cole is one of the New York State Library School "patriarchs," a graduate of the first (Columbia College) class. He has always been interested in the school and in general library development. He was secretary of the New York Library Club in 1892, and was for several years an officer of the New Jersey Library Association. At Jersey City his effective use of delivery stations was widely recognized, and his work in popularizing the library and extending its facilities to the schools has had lasting results. Mr. Cole has been a frequent contributor to the *JOURNAL*, where his practical utterances on open questions in cataloging, classification, and bibliography have been valuable additions to the literature of library science.

HENRY L. ELMENDORF, *Vice-president.*

What Mr. Elmendorf's library record lacks in length it evidently makes up in amount, for he has crowded within a twelvemonth sufficient A. L. A. work to reasonably fill two or three years. His first appearance at an A. L. A. conference was at the World's Fair meeting in 1893, and two years later — at the Denver Conference of 1895 — he was elected secretary of the Association. Mr. Hill spoke feelingly at Cleveland on the woes of a secretary's lot, and there is no doubt that Mr. Elmendorf could add interesting items to an "experience meeting" on the subject. He was an indefatigable worker for the success of the Cleveland Conference, and spent freely of his own time and means in the cause. The notably large attendance and the unflagging interest manifested at Cleveland were in good measure the result of Mr. Elmendorf's untiring efforts, and must have partly at least repaid him for his lavish expenditure of time and energy. He was appointed librarian of the St. Joseph (Mo.) Public Library in 1893, and has since then been one of the most enthusiastic of A. L. A. workers. The news comes, at this writing, that Mr. Elmendorf has given up his connection with the St. Joseph Library to take charge of the London office of the Library Bureau. This would seem to mean a complete severance from American library affairs, but that prediction is set at naught by the announcement of the marriage, on Oct. 3, of Mr. Elmendorf and Miss West, of the Milwaukee Public Library. To both the JOURNAL extends sincere wishes for happiness and prosperity in their new home across seas, trusting that the A. L. A. though lost to sight may still remain to memory near.

JAMES K. HOSMER, *Vice-president.*

It was in 1892 that Prof. Hosmer attained the final stage in what he has so graphically described as his evolution from the grub condition of a trustee into the beautiful librarian butterfly. This evolution was largely conducted under the auspices of Mr. Crunden, for from 1886 till 1892 Dr. Hosmer was a trustee of the St. Louis Public Library, where constant observation of the joys of a librarian's lot finally led him to join the ranks in which he is an honored member. He was elected librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library in February, 1892, succeeding Mr. Herbert Putnam, and he has ever since been a prominent figure in A. L. A. councils and gatherings. Indeed, his interest in library affairs has always been abiding, and one of the notable features at the Fabyans Conference in 1890 was his witty and effective presentment of the joys of "browsing" among library shelves. It is probably Dr. Hosmer's long "outside" experience that has given him the keen appreciation of the readers' point of view that has marked his work as a librarian, and users of libraries owe him a sincere debt of gratitude for the vigor with which he has advocated freedom in the use of books. Access to shelves has always had his approval,

and he has adopted it as fully in his own library as has been practicable, while his views on the use and function of books are marked by scholarly feeling and catholicity of tone. He was in 1894 appointed chairman of the A. L. A. co-operation committee, and has been prominent in the work of the Minnesota Library Association. In his ante-librarian days Dr. Hosmer combined authorship with his work as professor in Washington University, St. Louis, and he still manages to join the writing of a few books with the care of many. His contributions to historical literature comprise among other works: "Young Sir Henry Vane," "Life of Samuel Adams," "History of Anglo-Saxon liberty," "History of the Jews," and "The life of Thomas Hutchinson," published but a few months since; while in his little story "How Thankful was bewitched" he has not hesitated to swell the per cent. of fiction — a most unlibrarian-like proceeding. With wide scholarship and much practicality Dr. Hosmer combines a keen sense of humor and a most genial personality. He is one of the leading A. L. A. story-tellers, and no conference is quite complete without at least one Minneapolis anecdote to add to the unrecorded post-prandial proceedings of the A. L. A.

HANNAH P. JAMES, *Vice-president.*

Miss James's A. L. A. record is a long one and full to overflowing. She was librarian of the Newton (Mass.) Free Library when, in 1879, she brought to the A. L. A. a sincerity of purpose and a capacity for earnest work that have borne abundant fruit for 17 years. In 1882 she was elected a councillor, and her service and influence in the official work of the A. L. A. have always been unflagging. It is the educational and ethical mission of the library that she has chiefly emphasized in word and deed, and she has been one of the foremost workers for a closer relation between the library and the school. Her A. L. A. reports on "Reading for the young" are among the most useful contributions to the subject, and her practical hints and suggestions on "Libraries in relation to schools" in the papers of the World's Library Congress are especially valuable. Miss James was appointed librarian of the Osterhout Free Library in 1887, and her work there has been a strong influence for good in the community, not only in the direct field of the library but in educational circles generally. In technical library matters her experience and practical common sense have often been at the service of the profession. The finding-list of the Osterhout Library is an accepted working model in many libraries, and many useful suggestions on details of selection, shelving, and classification have come to the library world *via* Wilkesbarré. The files of the LIBRARY JOURNAL bear abundant witness to Miss James' share in the modern library movement, and her election to the office of vice-president is a fitting acknowledgment of the debt that the Association owes to one of its most devoted women workers.

GARDNER M. JONES, *Recorder*.

Mr. Jones's A. L. A. existence dates from 1887, when he was a student at the Columbia College Library School, graduating with the second year's class in 1889. It was in May of the same year that he succeeded Mr. Hill as librarian of the Salem Public Library, where since then his work has been helpful and suggestive in a wide field. Elected a member of the co-operation committee in 1890, he has always been active in the official work of the A. L. A., has served on finance and auditing committees, and taken active part in the conferences. In 1892 his thorough acquaintance with classification and cataloging was fittingly recognized by his appointment as chairman of the committee on subject-headings. His work in that capacity continued for three years, and only those who served on that committee can tell how much hard personal labor fell to its members. Their work has an enduring witness in the "A. L. A. list of subject-headings," one of the most useful tools that the Association has given to the profession. But it is probable that Mr. Jones's most generally known contributions to library literature are found in the *Bulletins* of his own library. The "Special reading lists" of the Salem Public Library have a value that is by no means local, and in material, method, and timeliness they have long been a model of their kind. Mr. Jones is an energetic worker in the Massachusetts Library Club, of which he was secretary in 1891. During the past year he has been chairman of the committee in charge of the "Select lists of fiction" published by the club. That enterprise, in fact, was almost wholly carried on by Mr. Jones and Miss Browne, whose freely-given time and energy made the issue of the lists practicable. Mr. Jones's work has always been characterized by thoroughness and painstaking accuracy, qualities that have made his opinions on technical subjects of special weight and interest and that fit him especially for the post of recorder, with its minutiae of important detail.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

A REGULAR meeting of the executive board of the A. L. A. was held at the Grand Hotel, Isl- and of Mackinac, September 7, 1896.

Present: President Brett, Vice-presidents Hosmer and Elmendorf, and Ex-president Dana.

Mr. Gardner M. Jones, of Salem, was appointed recorder, and took his seat as member of the executive board.

It was voted to write to Chairman Lane, of the European conference committee, asking him to hasten action on the part of that committee, suggesting to the executive board a place and date for meeting of the A. L. A. in 1897.

The following committees were appointed:

Finance: J. L. Whitney, W. E. Foster, and A. W. Whelpley.

Co-operation: W. H. Tillinghast, chairman,

who is hereby requested to suggest four other names for members of the committee in accordance with the recommendations of the report of the co-operation committee for 1896.

Library schools: Miss Theresa West, chairman; J. N. Larned, H. J. Carr, Miss T. L. Kelso, and A. H. Hopkins.

Public documents: R. R. Bowker, W. A. Bardwell, and F. B. Gay.

Foreign documents: C. W. Andrews, C. H. Gould, and L. B. Gilmour.

Gifts and bequests: Miss C. M. Hewins, chairman. Miss Hewins is hereby requested to suggest the name of some one from each state to report to her of the gifts and bequests in the territory of each.

State aid: J. H. Whittier, Miss C. M. Hewins, secretary; W. R. Eastman, J. C. Dana, S. S. Green, W. E. Foster; with corresponding members, same as for gifts and bequests.

Travelling libraries: John Thomson, C. W. Birtwell, J. H. Stout, W. R. Eastman, and Miss Gratia Countryman.

Co-operation with Library Department of N. E. A.: J. C. Dana, chairman; F. M. Crunden, Herbert Putnam, Miss Hannah P. James, Miss Linda A. Eastman, F. A. Hutchins.

American libraries clearing house: R. G. Thwaites, J. F. Langton, and Miss A. R. Hasse.

Library editions of popular books: C. R. Dudley, G. P. Rupp, C. K. Bolton, B. C. Steiner, and F. D. Tandy.

The following resolutions were passed:

Resolved: That the recorder be requested to publish and distribute to trustees, as promptly as possible, Mr. Crunden's paper to trustees, the abstract of the proceedings of the joint meeting of trustees with the A. L. A., and the letter of Trustee Whitelaw; the edition to consist of 1200 copies.

Resolved: That the recorder be instructed to print beside the regular number usually published 1000 extra copies of the proceedings, and to distribute the same at once to trustees and other interested parties, not members of the Association.

Resolved: That a list of the trustees and those representing trustees present at the meeting of the trustees' section, be published at the end of the account of the joint meeting, in the regular edition of the proceedings.

Resolved: That the recorder be instructed to index the proceedings, and that not to exceed \$40 be expended for this purpose, and that the recorder consult with the LIBRARY JOURNAL on the subject.

Resolved: That the secretary be authorized to expend \$100 for clerical assistance.

Resolved: That the secretary be instructed to issue at once a new edition of the handbook and distribute same to all members.

Resolved: That the secretary of state aid committee be instructed to issue at once two circulars, one addressed to corresponding members, the other for those members to send to correspondents in other states.

RUTHERFORD P. HAYES, *Secretary*.

A. L. A. ORGANIZATION, 1896-97.

President: William H. Brett, Cleveland (O.) Public Library.

Vice-presidents: Henry L. Elmendorf, St. Joseph (Mo.) Public Library; James K. Hosmer, Minneapolis (Minn.) Public Library; Hannah P. James, Osterhout Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Secretary: Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

Treasurer: George Watson Cole, 473 Jersey Avenue, Jersey City, N. J.

Recorder: Gardner M. Jones, Salem (Mass.) Public Library.

Executive board: The President, Ex-president (John C. Dana, Denver Public Library), Vice-presidents, Secretary, Recorder, and Treasurer.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Finance: James L. Whitney, Boston Public Library; W. E. Foster, Providence (R. I.) Public Library; A. W. Whelpley, Cincinnati (O.) Public Library.

Co-operation: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard Univ. Library, Cambridge, Mass., chairman.

Public documents: R. R. Bowker, Director Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library; W. A. Bardwell, Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library; Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford, Ct.

Foreign documents: C. H. Gould, McGill Univ. Library, Montreal, Can.; C. W. Andrews, John Crerar Library, Chicago; L. B. Gilmour, Detroit (Mich.) Public Library.

Library schools: Miss Theresa West, Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library; J. N. Larned, Buffalo (N. Y.) Library; H. J. Carr, Scranton (Pa.) Public Library; Miss T. L. Kelso, Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York City; A. H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library, Chicago, Ill.

Gifts and bequests: Miss C. M. Hewins, Hartford (Ct.) Public Library, chairman.

State aid: J. H. Whittier, E. Rochester, N. H.; Miss C. M. Hewins, Hartford (Ct.) Public Library, secretary; W. R. Eastman, N. Y. State Library, Albany; J. C. Dana, Denver (Col.) Public Library; S. S. Green, Worcester (Mass.) Public Library; W. E. Foster, Providence (R. I.) Public Library.

Travelling libraries: John Thomson, Philadelphia (Pa.) Free Library; C. W. Birtwell, Children's Aid Society, Boston, Mass.; J. H. Stout, Menomonie, Wis.; W. R. Eastman, N. Y. State Library, Albany; Miss Gratia Countryman, Minneapolis (Minn.) Public Library.

Co-operation with Library Department of National Educational Association: J. C. Dana, Denver (Col.) Public Library; F. M. Crunden, St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library; Herbert Putnam, Boston Public Library; Miss Hannah P. James, Osterhout Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; Miss Linda A. Eastman, Cleveland (O.) Public Library; F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo, Wis.

American libraries clearing house: R. G. Thwaites, Madison, Wis.; J. F. Langton, St. Louis, Mo.; Miss A. R. Hasse, Washington, D. C.

Library editions of popular books: C. R. Dud-

ley, City Library, Denver, Col.; G. P. Rupp, Philadelphia, Pa.; C. K. Bolton, Brookline (Mass.) Public Library; B. C. Steiner, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore; F. D. Tandy, Denver, Col.

Trustees of the Endowment fund: C. C. Soule, Brookline, Mass.; Norman Williams, Chicago, Ill.; J. C. Hutchins, Cleveland, O.

A. L. A. COUNCIL.

Term expires 1897: R. R. Bowker, Director Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library; C. A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.; W. I. Fletcher, Amherst College Library; W. E. Foster, Providence (R. I.) Public Library.

Term expires 1898: Mary S. Cutler, New York State Library; Hannah P. James, Osterhout Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; J. N. Larned, Buffalo (N. Y.) Library; Justin Winsor, Harvard Univ. Library.

Term expires 1899: W. C. Lane, Boston Athenæum; Theresa H. West, Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library; Caroline M. Hewins, Hartford (Ct.) Public Library; Caroline H. Garland, Dover (N. H.) Public Library.

Term expires 1900: E. H. Anderson, Carnegie Free Library, Pittsburg; Herbert Putnam, Boston Public Library; Katharine L. Sharp, Armour Institute Library, Chicago; H. M. Utley, Detroit (Mich.) Public Library.

Term expires 1901: H. J. Carr, Scranton (Pa.) Public Library; J. C. Dana, Denver (Col.) Public Library; Melvil Dewey, N. Y. State Library, Albany; Mary W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

PUBLISHING SECTION.

ANNUAL MEETING, HOLLENDEN HOUSE, CLEVELAND, SEPT. 1, 1896.

THE meeting was called to order by the secretary at nine o'clock, about 20 members being present. In the absence of the president, Mr. Fletcher was asked to take the chair.

Mr. Lane presented the report of the executive board, but did not read it at length. He called attention to the preliminary report in print relating to the change in organization and read the amendment which the board recommended that the Section should present to the Association. On motion of Mr. Bowker, it was voted to present to the Association the following amendment to its constitution: "To insert a new section between §§ 15 and 16 substantially as follows:

"16. *Publishing Section.*—The Publishing Section shall consist of five members appointed by the executive board for terms of not more than three years. Its object shall be to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve.

"The section shall annually appoint from its own number a chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

"No moneys shall be paid by the treasurer except with the written approval of three other members of the section, and no work shall be

undertaken except by vote of a majority of the whole section.

"The treasury of the section is entirely distinct from that of the Association, and the Association is not liable for any debts incurred by the section. With the approval of the finance committee money may be appropriated from the treasury of the Association for the running expenses of the section, but the section depends on the endowment fund as the financial basis of its undertakings.

"The section shall report in writing at each annual meeting of the A. L. A."

Voted: To elect Mr. Fletcher president, Mr. Lane, secretary and treasurer, and Messrs. Dewey, Bowker, and Iles the three remaining members of the executive board for the ensuing year.

Voted: That the treasurer be instructed to receive no more membership subscriptions and to close the accounts of the present members as he has opportunity.

Voted: To refer the report of the executive board to the Association, in order that it may be read before a larger number.

Adjourned.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, LAKE PLACID, SEPT. 7-8, 1896.

Present:—Messrs. Fletcher, Dewey, Iles, and Lane.

Voted: That all publications bear the distinct imprint of the A. L. A. Publishing Section, and that a concise statement of the objects of the section be placed on the reverse of the title-page.

Voted: To instruct the secretary to secure copyright on all publications of the section, but with the understanding that this is only in order to have the proper control of what it issues, and that on application to the section permission will be granted to libraries to use portions in suitable ways.

Voted: That it is inexpedient to advertise in other than library periodicals, but that publications be made known widely by sample copies sent for review, by circulars, and by placards to be posted in libraries.

Voted: That the following scale of discounts to the trade be made on all publications except such as may be specially excepted:

Less than 5 copies,	10 % (a tenth)
5 or more "	20 % (a fifth)
10 " "	25 % (a quarter)
20 " "	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % (a third).

Voted: That libraries shall be given trade discounts on purchases of five or more copies.

Voted: That the treasurer be instructed to notify all members of the vote at Cleveland looking to a reorganization of the section, to state the amount of the credit due them, and ask what publications they wish to take to close their accounts.

Voted: To print 1000 copies of the complete edition of "Reading for the young" (original and supplement), to be bound in cloth.

Many copies of the pamphlet on "Paper and ink" remaining on hand and not finding a

ready sale, it was voted to distribute gratis to students in library schools and training classes not more than 300 copies.

Voted: To offer the small paper-covered parts of the "List of books for girls and women" to library students at two cents apiece if ordered in quantity for all the members of a school at once.

Voted: That further publications of the same character as the "List of books for girls and women," having comparative and critical notes, be known as "Annotated lists," and that the heading of the title-page be "American Library Association—Annotated lists."

Voted: To issue the "Annotated lists" on Music and Fine arts together, to print 1000 copies and make no plates, and to set the price at \$1 in cloth, 50 c. in paper.

Voted: To request Mr. Beer, of the Howard Memorial Library, New Orleans, to submit his list of French fiction for examination by the board and by others.

Voted: That the Massachusetts Library Club be notified that the board does not think it advisable to take up the issue of the monthly fiction lists as a separate publication, and that it recommends that if the club be unable to continue their preparation, an effort be made to induce one of the library magazines to edit and print the lists.

Mr. Lane, the editor of the portrait index, reported further on the character of the material submitted by Mr. Samuel, of Philadelphia, on other material which might be available, and on additional material which should be collected, and outlined a plan for compiling the ms. of a comprehensive index of portraits.

The plan was approved, and it was voted to authorize the editor of the portrait index to employ assistance on the work at an expense of not more than \$300 in the course of the year.

The plans for making printed catalog cards for new books were further discussed, and it was agreed that the time had come when it was essential for the effective prosecution of the section's work to employ a competent person to assist in its various undertakings, as cataloger of new books for the printed cards, assistant in the work on the A. L. A. Index supplement and the portrait index, and in general to relieve the officers of the section of clerical labor.

Voted: To authorize the secretary to employ a cataloger for the section to work under his direction in Boston on preparation of copy for the printed cards, the portrait index, the A. L. A. Index, and such other work of the section as could be done by him to advantage; the salary to be not more than \$75 a month, and the expenditure of the \$300 authorized in the last vote to be included as a part of that here allowed.

Voted: To instruct the treasurer to apply to the executive board of the A. L. A. for an appropriation of \$200 towards the running expenses of the section.

W. C. LANE, *Secretary.*

EUROPEAN TRIP COMMITTEE.

THE committee reports that it has put itself into communication with Mr. MacAlister, honorary secretary of the L. A. U. K., and that it has held a meeting at which plans were discussed, but that nothing is as yet sufficiently settled to allow of a public announcement. The executive board of the A. L. A. has filled the vacancies caused by the resignations of Miss Cutler and Mr. Green, so that the committee is now constituted as follows: Wm. C. Lane, Boston, Chairman; Gardner M. Jones, Salem, Secretary; Wm. I. Fletcher, Amherst, Mass.; Miss C. M. Hewins, Hartford, Ct.; Miss M. W. Plummer, Brooklyn, N. Y.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

WILL those members of the Mackinac party who hold unused meal tickets on D. & C. steamers kindly forward them to Mr. A. A. Schantz, G. P. & T. A. Detroit & Cleveland Steam Nav. Co., Detroit, Mich.? By a mistake of the ticket-agent 10 tickets were given with each round-trip passage instead of seven.

ERLE H. MERRIMAN.

State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly, Mass.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester, N. H.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus, O.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland, Vt.

WISCONSIN STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.

State Library Associations.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

President: J. C. Rowell, Librarian University of California, Berkeley.

Secretary: A. M. Jellison, Librarian Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE first meeting after the summer vacation, held September 11, 1896, at the Mechanics' Institute, was well attended. President J. C. Rowell presided, and after a few words of greeting announced as the topic of the evening "Binding of books," and introduced Mr. Howard Morton, whose paper on "Practical notes on forwarding and finishing" was listened to with interest.

After disclaiming any intention of giving an exhaustive essay on bookbinding, Mr. Morton made an interesting comparison of the old with

the new method of work. He thought the idea that the finisher was the more important worker on a book was erroneous, the work of the forwarder being equally important, as errors at this stage of a book's progress could hardly be corrected.

The forwarder, however, gets little credit for fine work, having to content himself with the personal satisfaction of a task well done, while the finisher gets the credit, not only for his own artistic taste and fine handiwork, but that of his co-worker as well. "In criticism of binding it is not unusual to devote a half-column to the tooling and embellishment of the subject under discussion, while the forwarding is dismissed in two or three lines. . . . The forwarder deals with a book from the outside, and his estimate of it is from its external form; the finisher's knowledge too often terminates with the title-page. Let the forwarder share the praise or blame with the finisher, as they both work for a common purpose." The speaker dwelt upon the necessity of harmony of binding with the subject-matter of the book, a point too often disregarded, and concluded his paper with anecdotes of the humors and blunders of the craft.

Mr. Henry Marsden followed, giving a careful review of bookmaking and bookbinding in California during the past 30 years from his own observation. Mr. Marsden paid a tribute to the public libraries of the state for stimulating and encouraging fine book-work. In conclusion, the future possibilities of bookbinding as a fine art was discussed, and an eloquent plea made for a high standard of excellence in all branches of the work, a cultivation of true artistic feeling, and not the pecuniary rewards only. The necessity for training-schools was presented, and a return to the apprentice system urged as a means of obtaining skilled craftsmen and best results. The dignity of the work should be deeply impressed on the minds of the students, and every effort made to place the craft where it belongs—among the fine arts.

The paper read by Mr. C. K. Rosenberg on "Commercial conditions of bookbinding in California" was listened to with the closest attention. There were a number of fine bindings on exhibition, chief among them being a Cobden-Sanderson, loaned by Dr. E. R. Taylor. Dr. Taylor gave an appreciative sketch of this artist and his work, calling attention to the perfect workmanship of the volume under examination. Mr. William Doxey followed with a talk on French and English bindings, illustrating it with many examples of fine work, including a copy of the famous second edition of Rousseau's "Contrat social." A beautiful specimen of Chinese binding was shown.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: C. R. Dudley, City Library, Denver.

Secretary: John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

Treasurer: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. K. Stetson, Public Library, New Haven.

Secretary: Miss M. A. Richardson, Public Library, New London.

Treasurer: Mrs. F. W. Robinson, Otis Library, Norwich.

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Thomas Nelson, Public Library, East St. Louis, Ill.

Secretary: Miss E. L. Moore, Withers Public Library, Bloomington.

Treasurer: P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

An informal meeting of the Illinois State Library Association was held at Cleveland in the Army and Navy Building, Sept. 4, 1896, at 11:30 a.m. In the absence of the president, Dr. Wire was made temporary chairman.

The meeting was held during the session of the A. L. A. conference, and it was a matter of some surprise and of a great deal of pleasure to find such a large delegation from Illinois in attendance, as the state was represented by 28 persons. For one reason and another, however, there were but 15 of these persons present at the state meeting: Clement W. Andrews, libn. John Crerar Library, Chicago; W. W. Bishop, as. libn. Garrett Biblical Inst., Evanston; Mrs. Zella A. Dixon, libn. Univ. of Chicago; Carrie L. Elliott, ref. libn. P. L., Chicago; Mrs. Alice F. Evans, libn. P. L., Chicago; Ellen Gale, libn. P. L., Rock Island; Anderson H. Hopkins, as. libn. John Crerar Library, Chicago; Mary B. Lindsay, libn. F. P. L., Evanston; Margaret Mann, cataloger Armour Institute, Chicago; Ange V. Milner, libn. Ill. State Normal School, Normal; Evva L. Moore, libn. Withers P. L., Bloomington; Mrs. L. L. Powell, libn. P. L., Cairo; Jessie Van Vliet, as. libn. Armour Institute, Chicago; Mrs. H. M. Weeks, trustee P. L., Winnetka; G. E. Wire, M.D., libn., Evanston.

Mr. Bishop gave an interesting account of the Library Section of the National Educational Association formed at Buffalo, July 7, 1896, in connection with the meeting held there of the National Educational Association. He expressed the wish that the Illinois Library Association take up this work during the winter and help the movement on, and place Illinois at the head of the list of those states taking early interest in the matter.

Mr. Hopkins, chairman of committee on Illinois state library commission, reported that nothing definite had been done in regard to said commission, but that the bill to be presented at the assembling of the legislature in January would be drafted and ready for the next formal meeting of the state association.

Dr. Wire then made a few remarks in regard to the serious illness of Mr. Nelson, the president. Action was taken in regard to this, and the secretary instructed to write him a note of sympathy for illness and regret for his absence at the meeting.

In the absence of Miss Sharp, of the Bureau

of Information, Dr. Wire reported that the bureau was working successfully, and doing a good work.

A motion was made and carried to the effect that the body there gathered request that the executive board of the association meet and arrange for a session in the early fall of the Illinois State Library Association, at such time and place as is deemed convenient.

There followed an informal discussion and explanation of the functions of the state library commission, after which the meeting adjourned.

EVVA L. MOORE, *Secretary*.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Rollin A. Kautz, Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago, Ill.

An informal meeting of those members of the Indiana Library Association present at the Cleveland Conference was held in Cleveland, Friday, September 4. There were 13 persons present, and the session was chiefly devoted to a general discussion on the best means of promoting the library interests of the state. It was suggested that the meeting of the association, heretofore held in connection with the state teachers' association, be changed to a time when there would be no conflicting program to distract attention. It was decided that a lecturer be secured to speak on library progress at a joint meeting with the state teachers' association, with the intention of awakening a general appreciation of the need of a state library commission.

IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.

President: J. W. Rich, State University Library, Iowa City.

Secretary: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Secretary: Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston.

Secretary: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

Treasurer: Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

The Massachusetts Library Club held its annual meeting at Woburn, by invitation of the trustees of the Public Library, on October 7. In spite of threatening weather—a threat that soon degenerated into performance—there was an attendance at the sessions of about 200. On leaving the train the company went directly to the library, a beautiful building of brown-stone with light trimmings, in Richardson's best manner, well set off by its

ample lawn. Within it is exceedingly attractive, though thoroughly Richardsonian as regards the stowage of books. It was built from the bequest of Mr. Charles B. Winn, and on his estate. The entrance-hall contains a goodly number of paintings, also the bequest of Mr. Winn; on the one hand is the reading-room and book-room, on the other a small octagon containing collections in natural history given by Hon. John B. Cummings. Especially noteworthy are the collection of local birds and the herbarium of local plants.

At the library the club was welcomed on behalf of the trustees by Hon. Edward D. Hayden, vice-president of the board.

The first session was called to order shortly before 11 o'clock, in the vestry of the Unitarian Church.

The first paper was upon "Certain of the problems of a metropolitan library," by Mr. Herbert Putnam, librarian of the Boston Public Library. As Mr. Putnam, owing to a death in his family, was unable to be present, the paper was read by Mr. James L. Whitney. In form a presentation of the work of the Boston Public Library, the paper was in fact a closely-reasoned statement of the theory of the modern public library as most fully developed. It indicated the problems connected with the purchase of books, pointing out the different criteria of value in the literature of knowledge, or science, and the literature of power, or pure literature, and the principles upon which selection from the mass of printed matter must be based in both divisions, emphasizing particularly the necessity of making clear to oneself what the public may properly demand of the public library, and what really constitutes a popular demand. It then passed in review certain of the broader features of the distribution of books to the public, the selection of a site for the central library, the necessity of establishing branches and delivery stations, and the attraction and education of new generations of readers by work in connection with the public schools. Although originally written for reading before the Twentieth Century Club, and not assuming an intimate acquaintance with library work, it was a stimulating paper, and the more effective that it dealt with principles and not with details. It is to be hoped that it will soon be given to the library world at large.

Mr. H. C. Wellman, of the Boston Athenæum, then gave an entertaining account of the Cleveland Conference, its initial difficulties due to a plethora of conventions, its pleasant social features, its abundant facilities for registration, and its notable record of work accomplished. He described the president's address, which he thought would have a good effect, as showing that librarians were not so overwrought with enthusiasm as to be incapable of viewing soberly the imperfections of their work. For encouragement he read the LIBRARY JOURNAL'S abstract of Dr. Larned's address. In closing Mr. Wellman bore witness, as one who had this summer attended his first conference, to the value of the meeting, and urged all who could do so to attend the next conference.

Mrs. Rounds, of Somerset, described an attempt made to arouse interest in behalf of a public library in that town; it had been without success as yet, but private subscriptions had created a small library which the W. C. T. U. had housed and administered. The library was now "read out," and pending further efforts to secure action from the town, help in the way of duplicates or old books from other libraries would be much appreciated. Somerset is in Bristol County and has about 2400 inhabitants.

Mr. Lane described the work of the committee on the English trip appointed at Cleveland, and sketched such an alluring program of journeyings among libraries, cathedrals, lakes, and hills, that the club felt its mouth water; but a little more, and it would go *en masse*.

Turning to the work of the Publishing Section, Mr. Lane then announced that the section had taken over the preparation of printed cards. The cataloging will still be done by Miss Browne, but in the employ of the A. L. A., and at the Boston Athenæum. The printing and distribution of cards will still be done through the Library Bureau. Besides the full sets of cards it is hoped to supply smaller sets restricted to the most important books, for the use of small libraries, though at a somewhat higher proportion of cost. For books of essays, etc., where the contents can be given on the card, a separate card will be supplied for each essay, if desired, and these can be used as analyticals, by writing the required headings and underlining in red the corresponding title in the contents according to the plan used at Harvard College Library with much success.

This work will not take all of the cataloger's time, and the rest will be devoted to other work undertaken by the section. It is probable that in this small beginning of independent work the A. L. A. enters upon a new era of accomplishment.

In reply to an inquiry whether cards could be had for the titles in the A. L. A. catalog, Miss Browne said that printing these had been contemplated, but that not enough subscriptions had been received.

An invitation from Dr. Rice for the club to meet at Springfield was communicated by Mr. Jones. It was acknowledged with the thanks of the club, and referred to the executive committee.

At 12:30 p.m. the club adjourned to the vestry of the Presbyterian Church and sat down to a bountiful dinner; refreshed by which, about half the company braved the weather, and enjoyed a horse-car ride to North Woburn, where the birthplace of Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford, was inspected. The house was built in 1714; its low rooms, heavy beams, and huge chimney laid in clay, well recall those early days. It has been rescued, and is maintained as a memorial of Count Rumford by Mr. Leonard Thompson, of the board of trustees of the Woburn Library.

At the opening of the afternoon session a vote of thanks to our hospitable entertainers and to the two religious societies who had permitted the use of their rooms was passed.

The treasurer's report was then read, while the secretary presented his report in the form of a reference to the proceedings of the club as printed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, and the statement that 330 names had been recorded on the roll of membership during the year; the reports were accepted.

Mr. Jones read the report of the committee on select fiction: Books read 395; books recommended 160. Total expenses \$187.83. Receipts from subscriptions and gifts \$43.05. Expense to the club \$144.79.

Twenty-nine readers have engaged in the work, seven of whom classified as "most virtuous" served throughout the year.

The chief difficulties have been met in securing books and in obtaining readers. Some publishers decline to supply books, others promise but fail unless persistently drummed up. Experience shows that to read two novels a week for any length of time is a severe task, and the interruptions are many. The offer of the Publishing Section was rehearsed, and the committee recommended that the question of continuance be referred to the executive committee with full power, provided the avowed expense shall not exceed \$50. In conclusion the committee tendered its thanks to the Library Bureau for its assistance to the club in this matter. The report was accepted, and the recommendation of the committee adopted. The president then announced that the executive committee had, with much regret, been obliged to accept the resignations of Mr. Jones and Miss Browne, as chairman and secretary of the fiction committee, whose hearty devotion to the work had made it possible for the club to try this interesting experiment.

In the discussion on the report the value of the work was emphasized, but the difficulty of securing readers was made plain, and the justice of Miss Browne's remark, that a much larger number of readers ought to be employed on the same amount of work, was acknowledged, though Mr. C. A. Cutter, who was detected as one of the most virtuous readers, lamented the conclusion of his task, because since then he has read nothing but catalogs. It was found a distinct advantage to secure readers outside of the club, as they represent the judgment of the users of the libraries.

Mr. Gifford, of Cambridge, then read the paper on "Difficulties in the Dewey classification and their adjustment," in which he presented for discussion some of the perplexities that assail the classifier in its use. He mentioned as especially unsatisfactory the method of dividing finance and its related subjects, money, banking, and coinage, and said that the divisions assigned to electricity were inadequate to thoroughly cover the subject. The paper, while wholly technical, was suggestive and interesting, and it is hoped that it may soon be given in full in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*.

Miss Farley, of Radcliffe College, described the changes made in the Decimal classification in applying it to the library of that college, where readers are admitted freely to the shelves. The changes are chiefly in literature, where the

scheme used in Harvard College Library has been adopted with slight modifications.*

Thus, 820= Collections of English literature; history of English literature. 821= English literature to 1350. 822= Chaucer to Elizabeth. 823= Elizabeth to the restoration. 824= Restoration to death of Pope and Swift. 825= Death of Pope and Swift to French revolution. 826= French revolution to death of Scott. 827= Death of Scott to date.

With the discussion that followed the writer admits his inability to cope. Fate has not favored him with a practical use of the Decimal classification, and without the facility thus acquired it is difficult to follow a rapid interchange of opinion couched in that notation. They "lisped in numbers and the numbers came."

Mr. Biscoe commented on the various points noted by Mr. Gifford. He said that the section law (340) needed revision and enlargement, particularly in view of the action of the Belgian society in introducing the D. C. in Europe. It was originally planned with English-American law in view; now it must be adapted to properly represent foreign law. He urged great care in making changes, and especially that they should always be made so as not to conflict with the numbers as they now stand, and sacrifice the great advantage of the classification, the uniform number.

In reply to a question Mr. Gifford said that while three figures were enough for a small library in all subjects but literature and history, he had seen so many repentant people who had started with three figures in local history that he advocated the use of the complete classification here.

Mr. Bolton said he had arranged the history of Massachusetts towns under one alphabet instead of under counties, and it seemed to be agreed that this was the better arrangement, at least for New England.

Mr. Jones thought that in going beyond three figures it was well when printing to do as had been done at New Haven and omit the point, which only troubles the reader, and use 9156 instead of 915.6. He criticised the D. C. treatment of literature, and thought it better to keep all of an author's works together; *e.g.*, French writers alphabetically under 848.

It is better to reserve 342 for constitutional law and put constitutional history with the history of the country. Von Holst should go with Bancroft. Applied electricity is now well placed in 537, but in the future the applications of this force will be greatly widened, and it will be better to put works on the applications with the subject, and not with electricity, putting books on the use of electricity in agriculture with agriculture, etc.

Mrs. Sanders made a brief plea for strict adherence to the D. C. as it is written, until such time as an authorized revision shall appear.

The following board of officers were elected

* The Radcliffe scheme has been printed under the title "Classification used in Radcliffe College Library, Cambridge, 1896," and may be obtained from Miss Farley for the cost of printing and mailing.

for the ensuing year: President, Herbert Putnam, librarian of the Boston Public Library; Vice-presidents, W. R. Cutter, librarian of the Woburn Public Library, S. F. Whitney, librarian of the Watertown Public Library; Secretary, Wm. H. Tillinghast, assistant librarian Harvard College; Treasurer, Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary*.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

Treasurer: Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

THE association held a short session in Cleveland, September 4, at three o'clock, in one of the parlors of the Hollenden Hotel.

It was voted to extend the term of the officers for one year. The secretary's report showed the addition of seven members, and called attention to the enlargement of the libraries at Port Huron and Pontiac. The treasurer reported a balance of \$36.78 in the treasury.

The desirability of requesting the next legislature to establish a state library commission was discussed, and a motion was passed that the president appoint two members to act with him as a committee to take charge of the matter and to ask assistance of other members if necessary.

A report from Mr. Finney, of the University Library, in the matter of preserving, binding, and indexing local newspapers was read by the secretary. It stated that Mr. Finney's address on that subject, read at the last meeting of the association, had been printed and sent to a number of libraries that were not represented at the meeting, as well as to several newspapers. Replies received showed that nearly all the larger libraries are preserving files of local papers. One expressed a determination to begin indexing, and one newspaper agreed to try to print a few copies of each issue on durable paper.

It was voted to hold the next meeting in the Hackley Library, Muskegon, at a time to be determined by the executive committee.

The officers are: President, H. M. Utley, Detroit; Vice-presidents, Miss G. M. Walton, Ypsilanti, and Miss I. C. Roberts, Kalamazoo; Secretary, Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Bay City; Treasurer, Miss Lucy Ball, Grand Rapids.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. W. Bailey, Nashua.

Corresponding Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Librarian and Treasurer: Miss A. M. Colby, Public Library, Concord.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Cornelia A. See, Public Library, New Brunswick.

Secretary: Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. N. Larned, Buffalo Library, Buffalo.

Secretary: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: D. A. Campbell, State Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Mary Jones, State University, Lincoln.

Treasurer: Miss Carrie C. Dennis, Public Library, Lincoln.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.

Secretary: Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton.

Treasurer: C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

THE second annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association was held in Cleveland, O., on Friday, September 4, in connection with the conference of the A. L. A. About 60 members were present. The meeting was opened by President Brett, and one of the first subjects presented was a report of the work of the library extension committee, by A. S. Root, of Oberlin College Library, who recorded a gratifying increase of interest in library extension throughout the state. Mr. R. P. Hayes, of the state library commission, reported on the work accomplished and planned by the commission; and Charles Orr, of the Case Library, Cleveland, read his report as chairman of the committee on public documents. He thought that many more documents are printed than are necessary and urged economy in publication and distribution by the state.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. W. Whelpley, libn. Cincinnati Public Library; Vice-presidents, Frank Conover, trustee Dayton Public Library; Miss Martha Mercer, libn. Mansfield Library; E. M. Montfort, libn. Marietta College Library; Secretary, Miss Electra C. Doren, Dayton Public Library; Treasurer, C. B. Galbreath, libn. Ohio State Library; Advisory member executive board, A. S. Root, libn. Oberlin College Library.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Jos. G. Rosengarten, Free Library, Philadelphia.

Secretary: C. S. Kates, Free Library, Philadelphia.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. A. Resag, Institute Free Library, Wilmington, Del.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

Secretary-Treasurer: W. R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

On the evening of Monday, Sept. 28, representatives of the several libraries in the vicinity of Pittsburgh, Pa., met in the librarian's office of the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library and organized the Western Pennsylvania Library Club. A preliminary meeting, to plan for the organization of such a club, had been held in Pittsburgh on July 19, when definite action was deferred until fall. At the September meeting a constitution was adopted, modelled upon that of the New York Library Club, save that the offices of secretary-treasurer are combined. There are to be four meetings a year, on the second Thursday of each November, January, March, and May, the election of officers to occur at the May meeting. Annual dues were fixed at \$1. After the adoption of the constitution, Mr. W. M. Stevenson, librarian of the Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny, was elected president, and Mr. William R. Watson, of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, was elected secretary-treasurer. The election of the two vice-presidents was deferred until the first regular meeting in November, but the president appointed the following executive committee: E. H. Anderson, libn. Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, chairman; Miss Helen Sperry, libn. Carnegie Free Library, Braddock; Miss E. M. Willard, reference libn. Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh; Mrs. J. F. Blair, assistant, Carnegie Library, Allegheny; Percy Digby, libn. Law Library, Pittsburgh. After general discussion of the plans and purposes of the club the meeting adjourned, the executive committee being charged with the duty of outlining the work for the ensuing year.

The name Western Pennsylvania Library Club was adopted in order to include librarians of the western end of the state, several of whom had expressed a desire to join the club. It is hoped that members will be received from Johnstown, Oil City, Warren, New Wilmington, Bellefonte, and Braddock, and that the club may prove an effective means of strengthening and uniting the library interests of the section.

Librarians of western Pennsylvania or from the nearby towns of eastern Ohio and West Virginia are cordially invited to become members of the club, and are requested to communicate with Mr. W. R. Watson, secretary-treasurer, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

A MEETING of the Wisconsin Library Association was held at Cleveland, O., in connection with the A. L. A. meeting, on Sept. 4, 1896, at 11:45 a.m. Members attending the conference were: J. H. Stout, Menomonie; R. G. Thwaites, I. N. Bradley, Misses E. H. Blair, Emma A. Hawley, and Mrs. Sarah H. Miner, Madison; F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo; Miss Mary J. Doolittle, Beaver Dam; Miss Maude A. Earley, Chippewa Falls; Miss Mary A. Olcott, Oshkosh; Misses Theresa West, Mary E. Dousman, Lizzie P. Swan, L. E. Stearns, Milwaukee; G. B. Meleney, Chicago.

F. A. Hutchins, president, called the meeting to order, after which there was a general discussion of library problems and interests in the state. Notice was given of a meeting of the association at Ashland, Wis., on October 30 and 31, for the benefit of northern Wisconsin. This meeting will be held under the auspices of the free library commission. Plans were also discussed for a meeting of the association, in connection with the Library Section of the Wisconsin Teachers' Association, at Milwaukee, Wis., on December 30, 1896, at which Mr. Melvil Dewey will speak.

After a brief discussion of the best methods of bringing about needed legislation the meeting adjourned.

L. E. STEARNS, *Secretary*.

Library Clubs.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

Secretary: Miss May L. Bennett, Armour Institute.

Treasurer: W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going — and so good-day!"

A MEETING of the Round Table was held at the library on Sept. 29, 1896. Papers on the British Museum were read by Miss Martha Harnor and Miss Susanne D. Fisher, followed by discussion. Reports on the last A. L. A. Conference were given by Miss Theresa West, Miss Mary Dousman, and Miss L. E. Stearns.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Secretary: Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Treasurer: Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: Dr. Cyrus Adler, Smithsonian Institution.

Secretary and Treasurer: F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

ARMOUR INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS.

AMONG the features of the course in library economy for 1896-97 will be a course on "Public documents"; ten lectures on "Book-making," and five on "The history and art of bookbinding," by W. Irving Way, of Way & Williams, both series to be fully illustrated, and a course on "The history of printing," by Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

LIST OF STUDENTS, 1896-97.

THE fall term opened Wednesday, Sept. 30, with the following students:

Senior class.

Abbot, Etheldred. B.A. Vassar college, 1895.
Ames, Anne Seymour.
Andrews, Elisabeth Parkhill.
Betteridge, Grace Lillian. Wellesley college, 1887-89.
Fellows, Jennie Dorcas.
Flagg, Charles Allcott. B.A. Bowdoin college, 1894.
Langworthy, Louise. Ph.B. Alfred university, 1895.
Lord, Isabel Ely.
Morse, Anna Louise. B.A. Smith college, 1892.
Newman, Alice. B.S. Wellesley college, 1893.
Smith, Bessie Sargeant. B.A. Wellesley college, 1895.
Terwilliger, Mary Sayers. Ph.B. Alfred university, 1890; Ph.M., 1892.
Thompson, Madeleine Sylvester. B.S. Cornell university, 1882.
Thorne, Elisabeth Gertrude. B.A. Vassar college, 1895.
Waterman, Lucy Dwight.

Junior class.

Bailey, Arthur Low. Tufts college, 1894-96.
Brown, Edna Adelaide. Brown university, 1894-96.
Cook, William Burt, jr. B.A. Cornell university, 1896.
De Puy, Almena Rebecca. University of Michigan, 1888-89.
Garvin, Ethel. Brown university, 1893-96.
Haynes, Frances E. B.L. Mt. Holyoke college, 1895.
Hunt, Clara Whitehill.
Imhoff, Ono Mary. Woman's college of Baltimore, 1896.
Norton, Elisabeth. B.A. University of Vermont, 1896.
Officer, Helen Fuller. B.L. University of Denver, 1886.
Reed, Mabel Florence. B.L. Smith college, 1896.
Rogers, Florence Sally. B.S. Wellesley college, 1894.
Sawyer, Laura Maria. B.A. Acadia college, 1896.
Sherrill, Cecelia Adelaide. B.A. Smith college, 1893.

Skinner, Marie Aurelia. B.A. Lake Forest university, 1896.
Williams, Hugh. A.B. Adelbert college, 1896.
Wilson, Ellen Summers.
Wyer, James Ingersoll, jr. University of Minnesota, 1895-96. MARY S. CUTLER.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

LIST OF STUDENTS, FIRST YEAR COURSE, 1896-97.

Brooks, Mary C., Erie, Pa.
Bursch, Frederick C., Brooklyn.
Child, Grace A., Putnam, Ct.
Dailey, Jeanette W., Longstreet, Ga.
Dennis, Annie, Minneapolis, Minn.
Dill, Minnie A., Decatur, Ill.
Eno, Joel N., Willington, Ct.
Hackett, Irene A., Brooklyn.
Hawley, Frances B., New York City.
Humphrey, Mrs. Edith, Brooklyn.
Melcher, Mary M., Laconica, N. H.
Petrie, Flora R., Plainfield, N. J.
Plummer, Helen L., Baltimore, Md.
Russell, Alma M., Victoria, British Columbia.
Saunders, Enid, Brooklyn.
Titus, Mary V., Glen Cove, L. I.
Tobit, Edith, Omaha, Neb.
Wallace, Charlotte E., Brooklyn.
Walton, Lillian, Cleveland, O.
Whitney, Margaret D., New Haven, Ct.
Wright, Charles E., Cincinnati, O.
Zimmerman, Margaret E., Chicago, Ill.

Of 92 candidates examined but the foregoing 22 were accepted.

SECOND YEAR COURSE—ENTERING CLASS.

Carleton, Laura M., class '96, Salem, Mass.
Collar, Mildred A., class '96, Roxbury, Mass.
House, Lillie C., class '93, Brooklyn.
Pomeroy, Edith M., class '92, Brooklyn.

Reviews.

CAMPBELL, Frank. The theory of national and international bibliography, with special reference to the introduction of system in the record of modern literature. London, Library Bureau, 1896. 15 + 500 p. O.

This work of Mr. Campbell's is a reprint of 13 papers on bibliographical subjects, with an introduction of 205 pages and various connecting links and appendices. It is somewhat hard reading, as attempts to define and systematize in bibliography are apt to be, but to catalogers and classifiers it should be interesting; it is to be hoped that its very size will make it convincing to the government officials who have charge of publication.

The author is, we believe, in charge of the collection and cataloging of public documents at the British Museum. His experience of the difficulties in both departments has led him to seek a remedy, first in a better system of publication, on which he has many sensible remarks; and second in a national system of recording titles. It is easy to state the evils of

the present non-system of government publication; many have done it, though no one so systematically, from the cataloger's point of view, as Mr. Campbell. But to get governments to listen, there's the rub. However, Mr. Campbell has two great qualifications—enthusiasm and perseverance—which may in time accomplish abroad what we seem on the verge of effecting at home, thanks to the efforts of the committees and members of the American Library Association suggesting and supporting the well-directed efforts of Dr. Ames and Mr. Crandall.

Mr. Campbell repeats what has been urged again and again about the necessity of indexes, the evil of unindexed books. He has done good service, too, by insisting that any section of a book treating of a distinct subject is in fact a book, and for cataloging purposes should be treated as one; in other words, by defending analysis, whether in library catalogs or in bibliographies. But his object is to go farther back and to urge a change in methods of publication. He would have such works, when large enough, issued as separate volumes, and when too small for that, distinctly marked by sub-titles as sections to which the bibliographer can easily refer. His zeal may give the reader at times the impression that he thinks of books as existing for the sake of being cataloged. But a moment's reflection will show that this is not so absurd as it seems. The form which makes a volume easy to catalog (we are speaking of works of information) makes it easy to use, and a work well cataloged has a much greater chance to be used than one whose treasures are hidden. If authors and publishers could only be made to read Mr. Campbell's presentation of the need of system in publication and indexes! Something may in time be effected if reviewers will make as persistent an outcry against ill-planned and unindexed books as they do against much less important faults of grammar and spelling.

There is a good chapter on classification in catalogs. By the use of diagrams Mr. Campbell has brought out more clearly than had ever been done before the difficulties arising from the intermingling of subjects, that is, from the fact that one subject-group may be viewed from the standpoint of every other subject-group, a fact that leads the shelf-classifier to long for that impossible thing, transverse classification, and the catalog-classifier to get it by cross-references or double entry. In this he has made an important contribution to the theory of classification.

His main contention is, however, that as private enterprise fails to make a complete record of current literature (books, periodical articles, issues of societies, and public documents), government should take up the work. He advocates this record as the foundation of all subsequent records and as the surest means of getting uniformity in cataloging throughout the world, insuring the continuance of the work. By the state Mr. Campbell means the national library, that being the only one where all books are received. There he would have each state

record its literature *completely*, year by year, according to its *natural divisions and sub-divisions*, using the full title of a work as the *unit and movable factor* on which all subsequent work depends. And with the titles thus made he would have frequent author lists issued by government and all sorts of special subject-lists, as occasion demanded. It is curious that in this connection he does not appear to have heard of the linotype, which from its first invention was pointed out as the proper method for keeping all sorts of current catalogs that need to be reprinted in different arrangements, which in fact has been adopted for that purpose by several libraries, and by Mr. Brett, at Cleveland, for his promising "Cumulative index to periodicals." C: A. C.

Library Economy and History.

LOCAL.

Allegheny, Pa. Carnegie F. L. (6th rpt.—year ending Feb. 29, '96.) Added 3365; total 29,316; lost 38. Issued, home use 122,784 (fict., 86.69 %); ref. use 67,235. Readers using ref.-room 30,734; visitors to reading-room 117,983. Sunday use, ref. 4303, reading-room 27,815. New registration 2001; total cards in force 13,778. Receipts \$15,000; expenses \$14,995.57.

There has been a noticeable gain in the reference use of books, and a decrease of 2658 v. in the circulation. This is probably chiefly in the division of fiction, where there was a falling off of 1.56 %, due to a decrease in the supply. In juvenile fiction the books of Alger, Optic, Castlemon, *et al.* have been worn out and not replaced, and the same plan has been followed with the novels of Mary J. Holmes, Mrs. Southworth, and Augusta J. Evans. Mr. Stevenson says: "As a general rule the devotees of this class of literature will read nothing else, so that with the shrinkage in the supply of certain favorite authors of the lower grade, it was inevitable that the circulation should fall accordingly. It is still an open question as to how far the public library ought to furnish reading for recreation and entertainment only, and how far it ought to provide purely solid and substantial reading. It is generally argued that the public library should furnish a fair supply of the best imaginative literature, especially in industrial communities, where many people are overworked and need light reading as a recreation. As to the overworked who need fiction, the observation of your librarian is that the most inveterate readers of fiction are anything but the overworked, but are, on the contrary, the most idle class in the community. It is certainly not the function of the public library to foster the mind-weakening habit of novel-reading among the very classes—the uneducated, busy, or idle—whom it is the duty of the public library to lift to a higher plane of thinking. It has been thought expedient, therefore, to reduce the quantity of fiction to the minimum consistent with the popularity and usefulness

of the institution, and to use the public's love of reading for recreation as a means of culture."

The report contains a table giving the relative popularity of different classes of periodical literature; the humorous division leads with 54,856 issues, the literary is second, with 48,875; juvenile is third (28,675), and scientific periodicals come fourth, with 10,393 issues.

"The library has now reached the stage when it will soon be necessary to plan for more room. Already both reading-room and reference-room are too small, and by another year, at the present rate of growth, the shelf-room will be all occupied."

Atlanta, Ga. An ordinance is soon to be introduced into the city council, by Alderman J. G. Woodward, providing for the establishment of a public school library, from which pupils of the public schools may be supplied with text-books free of cost.

Baltimore. ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY. (*In Baltimore American*, Sept. 7, 1896.) il. 2 col.

This article is a description of the methods of the library and an account of the results accomplished during the 10 years it has been open to the public.

Boone (Ia.) F. P. L. (Rpt.) Added 518; total 3705. Issued 9733 (fict. 7675); visitors to reading-room (nine months) 12,223; total registration 2842. Receipts \$1337.02; expenses \$839.96.

Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L. The art department of the library opened its first exhibit for the coming season on Oct. 10. It consists of a display of art educational material, including statuary, original drawings, photographic enlargements, and other art-work suitable for the decoration of schools and similar institutions.

Burlington (Ia.) F. P. L. On September 4 plans were chosen for the new library building from the designs submitted in competition by several architects. The plans of W. T. S. Hoyt, of Boston, were accepted and the award of the \$100 prize was made to him. The building is to be one and two stories high, with a high basement. On the first floor will be a main entrance vestibule 7 x 16, opening into a large stair-hall, 18 x 27, by which the second floor and basement are reached, and which is continued as a delivery-room, 26 x 27 feet. To the right and left of this are the natural history room and the reading-room; the latter, 34 x 45 feet, has no second story and forms almost an annex to the main building. Back of the delivery-room opens the two-storied stack room, 33 x 50, with a book capacity of 70,000 v. It is planned to be fireproof, and is connected by stairways with the unpacking-room in the basement. West of the delivery-desk in the delivery-room are the librarian's office and the janitor's room. The reference-room, 15 x 25, and the catalog-room, 13 x 15, are west of the stair-hall and separated from the stack by the

width of the building. On the second floor is a lecture-hall, 38 x 50, seating nearly 300 persons, and a directors' room. In the basement are storage, unpacking, and toilet rooms, and heating apparatus. The building is to be in the Renaissance style, with a tower; it will cost from \$40,000 to \$45,000.

Champaign, Ill. Univ. of Illinois. On Sept. 11 the corner-stone of the new university library building was laid, with appropriate exercises.

Des Moines (Ia.) P. L. Suit has been brought in the district court by Conrad Youngerman to restrain the collection of the three-mill library levy, decided on by the library board to provide a building fund. The board has issued a statement on the subject, saying that they were unaware of any public opposition to the levy until after its authorization. According to the library act of 1894 library boards are "authorized to determine and fix the amount or rate to be appropriated for one year," and the change from the one-mill to the three-mill levy was deemed necessary to provide as soon as possible a new building, which is greatly needed. The plaintiffs, who are large local taxpayers, ask for an injunction restraining the county treasurer from collecting the second half of the three-mill levy for 1896, and also for an order compelling the board of supervisors to refund the first half of the two-mill tax collected in the spring.

The injunction prayed for was issued by Judge Conrad on September 29; it temporarily prevents the collection of the second half of the 1896 levy, but does not refer to the refunding of the spring levy. At a special meeting of the library trustees on October 1, it was decided to appeal from the judge's decision, and on October 3, the library's counsel began mandamus proceedings in the district court to compel the city council to certify to the collection of a four-mill levy for library purposes; one mill to provide for maintenance and three to create a site and building fund.

East Hartford (Ct.) P. L. The library was opened Sept. 14, with about 1500 v. on its shelves; of these some 1200 v. and about 20 periodicals and magazines were the property of the Raymond Library, and were transferred to the town when the public library was organized. During the first three days 60 borrowers were registered.

Easton (Pa.) L. A. (1st rpt.) "This association took possession of the library Thursday, March 6. It found 4000 books in possession of the Easton Library Company, and room on the shelves for about 1500 more. It opened the library for distribution of books March 30, with Mrs. Ellen M. Baum as librarian. The library has been opened daily and Tuesday and Saturday evenings, instead of as formerly, two afternoons for patrons and one for the pupils. Before this association took control of the library there were only 20 paying subscribers, now there are 226, including 13 life

members. 305 high school pupils, 26 members of the normal class, 61 teachers, and 39 stockholders, making in all 431, have the free use of the books. Therefore, 657 persons enjoy the advantages of the library, showing that there is a demand for a library in this city." 192 v. were added during the year. Membership fees are \$1.

Fall River (Mass.) P. L. The corner-stone of the new library building was laid on Sept. 30 by Mayor Greene. There were no ceremonies in connection with it.

Grand Rapids, Mich. The Sunday-school workers of Grand Rapids held a "librarians' symposium" on Sept. 24, to discuss methods and phases of Sunday-school library work. The topics were: "The Sunday-school library," "The need of a Sunday-school library in Grand Rapids," by W. H. Taylor, Calvary Baptist Sunday-school; "What books should be found in our library," by May Parker, Smith Memorial Sunday-school; "What books should not be found in a Sunday-school library," by F. J. Michmershuizen; "The librarian and his assistants," by C. Snell, Scribner Street Baptist Sunday-school; "How should the library be provided for?" by Oscar Streng, First Reformed Sunday-school; "The library catalog," by G. H. S. Phillips, Central Methodist Sunday-school, Detroit; and an open discussion on the papers.

Hiawatha (Kan.) P. L. The committee appointed by the common council to investigate the condition of the public library reported as follows on Sept. 7: "We find the condition of the library and reading-room good and the management of the library all that could be desired. We find but two members on the board of trustees, with an inability on the part of the mayor to find a suitable person who will accept an appointment as trustee. We find that the board of trustees have not been in the habit of meeting together to transact business pertaining to the library. We also find the library almost entirely under the charge of the librarian, who is often at a loss to whom to apply for advice and instructions. Therefore, we respectfully recommend that the council give this matter their most careful consideration to the end that they may secure the most efficient management of one of the most cherished institutions of the city." The report was accepted, and it was decided to prepare an ordinance abolishing the board of library trustees and appointing a library committee from the city council.

Independence (Ia.) F. P. L. (Rpt.) Added 440; total 4171; issued 14,007. Expenses \$1236.62.

The library levy has been placed at one mill.

Indianapolis (Ind.) P. L. On Sept. 12 the sub-committee appointed to investigate the question of establishing sub-library stations throughout the city presented a recommendation in favor of the plan to the regular citizens' library committee. It was recommended that

four stations be established as soon as possible, to contain reading-rooms supplied with periodicals and less-used books, and that three or four stations for the return and delivery of books only be also authorized. The maintenance of all the stations is estimated at less than \$3500 yearly, which can be appropriated from the library fund without injuring the library. At a meeting of the school board on Oct. 2, the report was adopted without modification.

Kennett Square, Pa. Bayard Taylor Memorial L. The new Bayard Taylor Memorial Library was dedicated Sept. 24, in the presence of about 1200 persons. Among the speakers at the ceremonies were John Thomson, of the Free Library of Philadelphia; John J. Pinkerton, of West Chester, Pa., and Prof. J. B. De Mott, of Bryn Mawr College.

The building, which stands within 300 feet of the poet's birthplace, cost, with site, about \$7000, most of which was contributed by friends or admirers of Bayard Taylor in the neighborhood and a little by his old literary associates. It is a two-story structure, about 40 x 60, built of brick upon granite foundations, with terracotta trimmings; views of the building appeared in the *Philadelphia Record*, Sept. 25, and *The Critic*, Sept. 25, p. 189. The first floor contains a reading-room, library, and librarian's office and toilet-rooms. The second floor, reached by an oaken staircase, contains a large hall, which is to be used for lectures and other entertainments; the interior is finished in yellow pine, and is well lighted with large windows and electric lights. The library was erected under the charge of the Bayard Taylor Memorial Association, and contains, as a nucleus, some 1000 volumes, owned by the local Union Library Association. It is intended to make the library free, the running expenses to be met by voluntary subscriptions.

Keokuk (Ia.) F. P. L. (Rpt.) Added 612; total 10,434. Issued 53,071 (fict. 47,686). New registration 658; total registration 3152. Receipts \$2396.25; expenses \$2122.73.

Menasha (Wis.) P. L. The library was opened on Sept. 23. A membership fee of \$1 is charged.

Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L. At the September meeting of the library board, held Sept. 7, action was taken restoring all salaries to the scale in force previous to the meeting in March of this year, when a general reduction was made.

Nebraska. Library day. The state superintendent of instruction has issued a circular recommending that Friday, Oct. 23, be observed as Library day in the schools throughout the state. The usual observances of readings, recitations, talks on books and libraries, and the contribution of books and money toward local or school libraries will be held.

Superintendent Corbett says: "Let me call your attention to the excellent opportunities afforded by this anniversary for extending the influence of good literature among our people,

both old and young. Let all public school teachers in this state, and all friends of education, enter heartily into the spirit of this day, to the end that existing libraries may be strengthened and new ones established wherever they can be made to contribute to the general intelligence and welfare. I need not urge the great importance of encouraging children to form habits of useful reading at home. There is no more effective way than to build up a good school library, and this anniversary instituted by our great state teachers' association and coming in the early part of the school year will give the best possible occasion for a special movement in this important direction."

A committee of the state teachers' association has also issued a circular on the subject, urging "the people of Nebraska" to extend "the hearty co-operation that the importance of this movement merits. Let such co-operation extend to all those who can be in any way instrumental in establishing or improving a library — 'a poor man's university' — in every locality where its influence may be needed and appreciated. Nothing of importance can be accomplished without 'organization and a time.' Let 'Library day' furnish the occasion; let our schools, by a fitting observation of the day, endeavor to create a deeper interest in the cause of education and increase or establish a library in every school-house, to which all who will may have access under proper restrictions. Let your programs awaken the people to the fact that it is the educated head and hand that leads the day. When this idea possesses young men and women they will find the means for securing the culture and training they need to prepare them for honored and useful citizenship. Let it be borne in mind that to furnish one with a carefully prepared selected list of books 'is to give him an education, to put him in possession of a moral and intellectual ideal.' Therefore let your selection of books be made with reference to quality, not quantity."

Nevada (Ja.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 329; total 3465. Issued 9219 (fict. 7715), an increase of 1351 over the previous year.

New York. Harlem L. (Rpt. — year ending May 11, '96.) Added 924; total "about 18,570." Issued 38,337 (fict. and juv. fict. 32,100). No subscribers (by monthly count) 484 at end of period, with the highest membership of the year 585 in March. Receipts \$6386.17; expenses \$5276.19.

Oconomowoc (Wis.) L. A. Added 590; total 2290.

Terryville (Ct.) P. L. (1st rpt.) Total 1340. Issued 3964 (2488 fict., 1116 juv.); no borrowers 252. Receipts \$229.59; expenses \$220.57.

Of the 1340 v. on the shelves 985 were given by the Terryville Lyceum Library, and 238 were received from the state. The matter of opening a reading-room is under consideration.

Thompsonville, Ct. Enfield P. L. The library was formally opened on the evening of

September 29. It occupies the entire upper floor of the town-hall, and for the present it will be open on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons and evenings.

Warren (O.) L. A. (Rpt.) Added 714; total 2951; membership 194. Receipts \$883.96; expenses \$855.23.

Washington (D. C.) U. S. Congressional L. It is expected that the joint committee on library, assigned at the last session, will hold its first meeting soon after the election. The duty of the committee, says the *Washington Evening Times*, "is a review of the whole problem of removal of the books from the old library to the new, the proper arrangement of the books in the new library, the rules to govern their use, and the very numerous details of the management of the new building, together with the determination of what shall be done with the rooms now occupied as a library in the capitol."

"The committee consists of Senators Hansbrough, Wetmore, and Voorhees, and Representatives Harmer, Quigg, and Cummings. It has been supposed by some ill-informed persons that the committee would meet during the summer to consider the important questions upon which they are to pass. The resolution in regard to the matter was that they should sit during the recess. But the political campaign so engrosses their attention that no other public interest can command a moment of their time. The first meeting of the committee will take place soon after the election and the members will then remain in practically continuous session until their work is completed. They will receive a full and complete report upon the situation by Librarian Stafford; they will also have reports and information from other officials and experts."

Waukesha (Wis.) L. A. The various woman's clubs, literary societies, etc., have decided to unite with the library association in the endeavor to establish a public library.

FOREIGN.

Abyssinia. According to the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, King Menelik II. intends to establish a library in his new city, Addis Abeba. Only a year ago he caused a large collection of manuscripts to be made from the whole empire, especially old Ethiopic documents, and had them brought to Addis Abeba. It has long been reported that in the 16th century, when Abyssinia was invaded by the Somalis, all the books of the Abyssinian king were concealed on an island in the Zuai See, called the "Debra Sinai," i.e., Hill of Zion, and that they are still to be found here. Last December Menelik caused two rafts to be made and went over to the sacred island of Debra Sinai. It is claimed that the manuscripts were actually found here, where they had for centuries been preserved by the islanders with superstitious awe. Menelik took possession of them, and had them encased in silk and put in charge of an official, but ordered that copies should be made of every manuscript, and these copies placed in the new library at Addis Abeba.

Canada libraries. Ross, G: W. The school system of Ontario (Canada): its history and distinctive features. (International education series, no. 38.) New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1896. 14+203 p. \$1.

Chapter x. of this work (p. 156-172) is devoted to "School libraries, public libraries, and text-books." The acts of the legislature and the regulations of the Education department governing libraries are briefly described.

Dutch university libraries. In *Education for September* (17: 18-26) S. Nussbaum contributes an article on universities in Holland. The libraries of the universities of Leiden, Utrecht, Groningen, and Amsterdam are briefly described.

ITALY, *Ministero di agricoltura, industria e commercio.* Statistica delle biblioteche: parte 2: biblioteche appartenenti ad accademie, scuole secondare, seminari, biblioteche militari, gabinetti di lettura e biblioteche private, non comprese nella parte 1. Rome, G. Bertero, 1896. 154 p. O.

The first two-volume part of this comprehensive handbook of Italian libraries was noted in L. J. for May, 1895 (20: 185); this final volume covers technical, academic, and private libraries not previously listed. The arrangement of the tabulated statistics is according to provinces and then alphabetically by towns, the tables being followed by descriptive notes on the libraries of the various towns. In the complete work there are about 1831 libraries recorded.

Spanish libraries. Altamira, Rafael. Les bibliothèques en Espagne. [*In Revue Internationale des archives, des bibliothèques et des musées*, v. 1, no. 5. Bibliothèques, no. 2. p. 130-135.]

"The public libraries of Spain may be divided into three groups: (1) the National Library, those of the royal academies (especially the Spanish Academy and the Academy of History) and the two royal libraries; (2) the university libraries to the number of 10; (3) the libraries of the institutions for secondary education. In addition, there are certain special and very important libraries, like those of congress and of the senate, libraries of scientific institutions, like those of the Comision del Mapa Geologico, and of the national college for deaf-mutes and blind, municipal libraries (very rich), church libraries, and public libraries.

"Most of the public libraries are under the charge of the officers of the 'Cuerpo general de Archiveros,' but there are some (especially those belonging to the institutions for secondary education) which are not controlled by the Cuerpo."

M. Altamira briefly describes the leading libraries in each of the three groups, giving the number of volumes, special features of the different collections, and a word as to their catalogs. Naturally the National Library receives the most detailed mention.

Practical Notes.

BOOK-STACK (*In Official Gazette of the U. S. Patent Office*, Aug. 4, 76: 700.) il.

"A book-stack, comprising supporting-posts provided with series of lugs on their inner adjacent faces, brackets provided with rearwardly-projecting hooks adapted to engage said lugs, an upper hook upon the bracket being provided with a stop to prevent the upward tilting of the bracket when the latter has been adjusted upon the lugs and the shelf fitted to the brackets, . . . said brackets provided with rearwardly-extending hooks adapted to engage said lugs to lock the brackets in removable adjustment and shelves having their ends secured to the brackets."

HORTON, Elmer Grant. The disinfection of books by vapor of formalin. (*In Medical News*, Aug. 8, 69: 152-154.)

The experiments described in this paper were carried on at the Laboratory of Hygiene, University of Pennsylvania, and at the request of Dr. John S. Billings. Books can be disinfected in 15 minutes by this means, nor is there any injurious effect on the books observed.

SEPARABLE BOOKCASE. (*In Official Gazette of the U. S. Patent Office*, July 21, 76: 408.) 1 col. il.

"A case for books, or other articles, comprising a series of independent crates or sections adapted to be piled one upon another, and each provided with a door, hinged at its upper edge and adapted to be turned down to close the front of said crate or section, and a locking mechanism arranged in each crate for locking said door in its closed position, the locking mechanisms being arranged to co-operate with each other, whereby the same are simultaneously operated."

Gifts and Bequests.

Baltimore. Johns Hopkins Univ. L. The university library has received some 800 volumes, in addition to numerous pamphlets, by bequest of Henry Phillips, Jr., of Philadelphia. Most of the books are on numismatics and Spanish and German literature.

Hardwick, Mass. By the will of the late Lucius R. Paige, of Cambridge, Mass., the sum of \$10,000 is left to the town of Hardwick for the establishment of a public library, to be erected within one mile of the town-hall, and to be known as the Paige Library.

LARGE GIFTS TO LIBRARIES are noted by the *Critic* in its issue of Aug. 29. The benefactions recorded are those of John Jacob Astor, W. B. Lenox, John Crerar, W. L. Newberry, Andrew Carnegie, Enoch Pratt, M. F. Reynolds, Leonard Case, Judge Forbes, and gifts to the Library Co. of Phila., Minneapolis P. L., and Peabody Institute.

Librarians.

BROWNE, Miss Nina E., has resigned her position with the Library Bureau, Boston, to take charge of the preparation of the printed catalog cards, which have been transferred from the Library Bureau to the A. L. A. Publishing Section. The work will be done at the Boston Athenæum under Mr. Lane's direct charge, and Miss Browne will also give her time and skill as far as practicable to editorial work on the other publications contemplated by the Publishing Section.

BURNITE, Miss Caroline E., of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '93, has resigned her position as librarian of the Equitable Life Insurance Co., New York, to take charge of the Library of Tome Institute, Port Deposit, Md. She is succeeded by Miss Mary E. Miller, of the same class.

DENIO, Miss Lilian, has resigned her position as librarian of the Bryson Library at the Teachers' College, 120th street, New York City, on account of ill health. Miss Elizabeth G. Baldwin, of the Columbia University Library, has been appointed her successor, and has already entered upon the duties of the position.

DOREN, Miss Electra C., has been elected librarian of the Dayton (O.) Public Library.

ELLIOTT, Miss Julia, formerly assistant in the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library, has been appointed assistant in the Philadelphia Free Library.

ELMENDORF, H: L., ex-secretary of the American Library Association, has resigned his position as librarian of the St. Joseph (Mo.) Free Public Library, which he has filled for the past three years. He has accepted an offer from the Library Bureau to take charge of its London office, where he will enter upon his new duties sometime in October. It was an evidence of Mr. Elmendorf's value to the library that on his resignation the library board reduced the salary of librarian from \$125 to \$90 per month.

ELMENDORF-WEST. Miss Theresa Hubbell West and Henry Livingston Elmendorf were married at 12 o'clock, on October 3, 1896, by Rev. Judson Titsworth, at Miss West's home, 378 Boylston place, Milwaukee, Wis. The wedding came as a surprise to the many friends of both Miss West and Mr. Elmendorf, but Mr. Elmendorf's London appointment necessitated a change of previous plans. The ceremony was a very quiet one, and at its close Mr. and Mrs. Elmendorf left for the East, to spend a fortnight in Boston before their departure for England.

EVANS, Charles, of the Newberry Library, has been appointed secretary and librarian of the Chicago Historical Society. Mr. Evans was for six years an assistant of Dr. Poole at the Boston Athenæum, and did excellent work as librarian of the Indianapolis Public Library; he was later in the Enoch Pratt Free Library, and in 1887 reclassified the Omaha Public Library. Recently he was engaged in reorgan-

izing the library of McCormick Theological Seminary in its new home in the Virginia Library building. He was one of the founders of the A. L. A.

FOOT, Miss Susan C., of the Pratt Institute Library School, has been appointed librarian of the South Orange (N. J.) Public Library.

HAMMOND, Miss Emma C., has been appointed librarian of the Danielson (Ct.) Free Public Library, succeeding Miss Isabella A. Kerr.

HUBBELL, Miss Jennie A., has succeeded Mrs. A. M. Waugh as librarian of the Rockford (Ill.) Public Library.

PECKHAM, George W., was, on October 3, 1896, at an adjourned regular meeting of the library board, elected librarian of the Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Theresa West. Mr. Peckham was formerly superintendent of schools, having resigned his position in June last. While superintendent he was an *ex-officio* member of the library board, and took a deep interest in the library, co-operating heartily with the librarian's efforts to circulate books through the schools. In November, 1894, he contributed an article on the subject to the *Educational Review*. Mr. Peckham attended the meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, at Madison, in February, 1895, and read a paper on "Library commissions," the matter of a state commission being at that time before the legislature. He has done a great deal of scientific work, belongs to many scientific societies, and for many years held the position of professor of biology at the Milwaukee High School. Mr. Peckham's election has been met with general local approval, and is a matter of congratulation to all who have the interests of the library most at heart. He is a man of wide culture and of serene and genial temperament, of whom it was said when he was elected superintendent of schools, "He likes a great many people and is therefore a much-liked man." He was a member of the Y. M. A. board which arranged the founding of the library, and in his relations with it as trustee he has been a wise and helpful counsellor. He is especially fitted for the position of librarian by his personal character, his thorough knowledge of the city, of the policy of the library and of the details of the new building; and the members of the A. L. A., to which he already belongs, will find that in him they have gained an able and agreeable co-worker.

RUSSELL, C: Gilbert, chief assistant in the executive department of the Boston Public Library, died on Sept. 16, 1896. Mr. Russell was born in 1869, was a graduate of Williams College, and entered the service of the Boston library in 1895, through the regular course of its civil-service system. His duties were in the executive department, and in the absence of an assistant librarian he in a measure filled the place of such an officer.

STRAIGHT, Miss Maude W., of the Armour Institute library class of '96, has gone to Dubuque, Ia., to reorganize the public library.

WARREN, Miss Irene, of the Armour Institute Library class of '96, has been appointed librarian of the State Normal School at Stevens Point, Wis.

WEST, Theresa Hubbell, who on Oct. 3 became Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf and left the library ranks, where she has long done so much, has been for years one of the foremost women workers in the American Library Association. Miss West's connection with the Milwaukee Public Library dates back to its founding in 1878. A year before that time she became assistant to Miss Elizabeth Gifford, who was in charge of the Young Men's Association Library, which formed the nucleus of the present public library. Miss Gifford married George W. Peckham, former school superintendent of Milwaukee, who now succeeds Miss West. When Miss Gifford resigned her place in the Young Men's Library Miss West succeeded her and was in charge when in 1878 arrangements were completed for the transfer of the library to the city. The library numbered some 10,000 volumes at that time, and she has seen it grow to some 80,000 volumes. For two years Miss West was assistant to Major Henry Baetz, and when he resigned and was succeeded by Mr. Linderfelt in 1880, she was made assistant librarian, a place she held until the office of librarian was again made vacant in 1892. At that time the dignity and tact she showed in trying circumstances are still remembered; when the librarianship was offered to her she at first refused it, and only after repeated urging accepted the position for which she doubted her capacity. Her work as librarian was notable, even outside library circles, and she has always given herself with devoted enthusiasm to her profession. The new building for the Milwaukee library will present largely the results of her knowledge and practical conception of what a library should be, and her A. L. A. report on library architecture at the Lake Placid Conference was one of the most valuable and lucid contributions to a subject on which much has been written. To the A. L. A. Miss West's devotion, hard work, and executive ability have been given freely. She has served on numerous committees, and at the expiration of her term as a councillor in 1895 was elected first vice-president; and she has been a moving spirit in the library circles of her own state and city. Her charming personality, tact, and gracious dignity have endeared her to her fellow-workers and to her host of A. L. A. friends, all of whom are united in wishing her the happiest of futures in her new transatlantic home.

WRIGHT, P. B., of St. Joseph, Mo., was on Oct. 1 elected librarian of the St. Joseph Public Library, succeeding H. L. Elmendorf. The *St. Joseph Gazette* says of him: "He is well and favorably known, having been city clerk for 10 years, at times connected with the newspaper press, recently with *The Journal of Commerce*, is secretary of the Commercial Club, connected with the Retail Grocers' Association in a clerical capacity, and a gentleman of suave manners, and in every way worthy of the position he is called upon to fill."

Cataloging and Classification.

THE A. L. A. Publishing Section has just issued through the Library Bureau a "Supplement to reading for the young," prepared by Mary E. and Abby L. Sargent, and continuing J. F. Sargent's useful manual for the years 1891-95 inclusive. It follows closely the lines of the original work, listing the best children's books of the period and including titles of articles (not stories) in young people's periodicals, relating to historical, biographical, scientific, and similar subjects. The periodicals indexed are *St. Nicholas*, *Harper's Young People*, *Wide-Awake*, and *Youth's Companion*, the latter being a new feature. The book is priced at 75 c. in paper and \$1 in cloth.

BUFFALO (N. Y.) L. Finding list. Part 3, embracing science and the arts, philosophy, religion, social science (except politics), and local history. July, 1896. 4+20, 312-602 p. O.

A title-a-line class list, prefaced by full subject index and listing pamphlets as fully as books. The collection it catalogs is a most interesting one, well rounded and representative. The division of Local collections covers 23 pages.

EXPANSIVE CLASSIFICATION. — After a long pause the Expansive classification has resumed publication. The last sheet but one of History (p. 37-52) and the first 16 pages of Medicine are now going to subscribers. The latter section is in the main the work of Dr. G. E. Wire, whose peculiar qualifications, as being a graduate of both a library school and a medical school and a practitioner at once in physic and bibliothec, are well known.

The JERSEY CITY (N. J.) F. P. L. *Record* for Sept. 15 (v. 5, nos. 8 and 9) contains a list of "Works on the currency question" contained in the library, with a supplementary record of pamphlets and magazine articles. The position of the writer, whether favoring gold or silver, is noted.

W. DAWSON JOHNSTON, of the University of Michigan, plans to issue by subscription a series of "English historical annotations," on library cards, recording current English historical literature. The cards, of which examples were shown at the recent A. L. A. conference, contain full author entry, with imprint data and price, and a critical and analytic note, giving the subject covered, method of treatment, author's point of view, specially meritorious features and references to reviews in literary periodicals or magazines. The note is signed and dated. According to Mr. Johnston's plan the annotated cards will be issued "six months after the date of publication of a book," and subscribers will be entitled to "1, a card for the general library — a catalog card; 2, a card for the department library — a bibliographical card; 3, an impression on paper for the

inside cover of the book." Between 60 and 70 cards will be issued during the year, and the subscription is \$1 per year. The cards sent out as examples contain excellent annotations, that should certainly be practically helpful; but in cataloging details they are not fully in accord with library methods. For instance, capitals are employed as in ordinary usage, the title of a book is quoted, and the arrangement of imprint data does not follow library custom. It may be doubted whether the length of time that will elapse between the publication of a book and the issue of its cards will not prove a drawback to their library usefulness.

JOSEPHSON, Aksel G. S. The Dewey decimal classification and scientific classification. (*In Science*, Sept. 4, 1896, p. 315.) 2 col.

"Every one who hopes for any good results from the bibliographical conference held this summer in London must be pleased to learn that that body did not see its way to adopt the Decimal classification as a foundation for the system to be used in the proposed international index to scientific literature. To adopt that system, even with modifications, would undoubtedly have resulted in a deadlock for the whole science of bibliography, and would have lessened, in a very considerable degree, the usefulness of the international bibliography scheme." Mr. Josephson calls attention to the fact that in the two libraries where the decimal system was first used, Amherst College and Columbia University, it has all been made over again. "The science of classification, and of bibliography generally, has no representative in this country, neither a society nor a periodical. The LIBRARY JOURNAL, 'chiefly devoted to library economy and bibliography,' is really devoted exclusively to the former. The few short contributions to bibliography that have appeared there of late have been of small consequence, and perhaps naturally so. The librarians are confronted with many practical questions of administration that urgently need solution, and have little time to devote to mere theoretical questions. But there is certainly not only room, but need, for some centre for the study of bibliography proper, and more particularly classification."

The NEW BEDFORD (Mass.) F. P. L. Bulletin for September contains "Reference list no. 13" on Education.

NEW HAVEN (Ct.) YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE
List of music and French books. New Haven, 1896. 8 p. O.

NOTTINGHAM (Eng.) L. Bulletin, no. 2. October, 1896. 16 p. O. 1d.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. Bulletin devotes the reference list in its September issue to "The Alps," covering general description, separate localities, books on mountaineering, and scientific discussion.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin devotes the special reading list in its September issue

to "The money question." The list covers six pages, and the classed list is followed by an interesting chronological presentment of the chief periodical literature on the subject since 1890.

The SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) L. Bulletin for September contains a list of books and magazine articles on "The currency question."

STURTEVANT PRELINNEAN LIBRARY. Catalogue. (*In* 1896 rpt. of Missouri Botanical Garden.)

In 1892 Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, of South Framingham, Mass., presented to the Missouri Botanical Garden of St. Louis his large collection of herbals, natural histories, and medical botanies. These works were arranged in an alcove and cataloged. The limit of this PreLinnean alcove is the publication of the first edition of the *Species Plantarum* by Linnaeus in 1753. The catalog is published as a part of the 7th annual report of the Garden (1896), and it is also issued separately as a reprint. It comprises p. 123-209 of the report (8^o). The catalog is arranged on the dictionary plan, with very many cross-references. The great majority of works are Latin, very few are English, and the collection is a most valuable one for the student of the history of botany.

UNITED STATES, Dept. of Agriculture. Library bulletin, August, 1896: accessions to the department library, April - June, 1896. 14 p. O.

CHANGED TITLES.

"Chumley's post: a story of the Pawnee trail," by W. O. Stoddard, is the same as "Red Beauty: a story of the Pawnee trail," by the same author. This book, copyrighted by Lippincott, Phila., in 1886, was first published under the title "Red Beauty." Two dates of copyright are given in "Chumley's post," 1886 and 1895. Careful examination seems to indicate that the books are printed from the same plates. There are a number of illustrations in the later work, the only difference between the two; but they do not change the pagination, as the illustrations are bound in separately. S: H. R.

FULL NAMES.

Cogswell, F: Hull (The regicides).
W. K. STETSON.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Casey, Joseph James (Personal names in Hening's Statutes at large of Virginia, and Shepherd's Continuation);

Crary, J: Williamson (Sixty years a brick-maker);

Davenport, W: Edwards (Poetical sermons. A thank offering of song);

Frothingham, Arthur Lincoln, sr. (The philosophy of art);

Hoffman, F: Ludwig (Race traits and tendencies of the American negro);

Hubert, Philip Gengembre, jr. (Inventors);
Van Ornum, W: H: (Why government at all?).

Bibliography.

ARITHMETIC. The report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education for 1893-94 contains (v. 1, p. 314-316) a "German bibliography of the history and methods of arithmetic," by Matthæus Sterner.

BROWNING, Rob. The *Athenæum* for Sept. 12 contains a further instalment of T. J. Wise's "Bibliography of the writings of Robert Browning," continued from its issue of Oct. 27, 1894.

CRIMINOLOGY. The report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education for 1893-94 contains (v. 2, p. 1697-99) a "Bibliography of congresses in social pathology."

EDUCATION. The report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education for 1893-94 contains (v. 1, p. 306-308) a bibliography of German books on the "History of education." Chapter 16 of the report (v. 2, p. 1701-1722) is devoted to "Some recent educational bibliographies and lists of books designed more particularly for the use of educators and students." The list covers nearly 100 different topics, arranged alphabetically by subjects; in some cases entries include brief explanatory notes.

EPIGRAPHY. Egbert, Ja. C. "Introduction to the study of Latin inscriptions." New York, Am. Book Co., 1896. 7+468 p. D. \$3.50. Contains a 10-p. annotated bibliography.

GEOGRAPHY. *Annales de géographie, publiées sous la direction de MM. P. Vidal de la Blache, L. Gallois, et Emm. de Margerie: Bibliographie de l'année 1895.* Paris, Amand Colin & Cie., 1896. 288 p. O. 5 fr.

The fifth annual issue of this bibliography. Divided into two parts; the first is devoted to general works, comprising the history of geography in its mathematical, physical, and political bearings; the second is classified by local sections. Both these parts are again subdivided to facilitate reference. The works are all annotated and criticised, and all reviews are signed. An alphabetical list of the authors represented appears at the end. Writings included have been selected by their importance through the questions they discuss, through the value of their information, and through the interest their contents may have for the general public. The work is under the direction of French and foreign scholars whose names have authority in Europe and America.

GRAND-CARTERET, J. *Les almanachs français: bibliographie-icographie des almanachs, années, annuaires, calendriers, chansonniers, étrennes, états, heures, listes, livres d'adresses, tableaux, tablettes et autres publications annuelles* editées à Paris (1600-1895). Paris, Alisié, 1896. 110 x 850 p. 8°. 50 fr.

NEGROES. The report of the U. S. Commissioner of education for 1893-94 devotes an interesting chapter (v. 1, ch. 8, p. 1019-1061) to "Education of the colored race in industry." It contains a full bibliography, including pamphlets, government reports, and magazine articles, covering (1) "Education of the colored race," (2) "Negroes in America," and (3) "Works by negro authors."

OMAR KHAYYÂM. *Rubâiyât of Omar Khayyâm:* English, French, and German translations comparatively arranged in accordance with the text of Edward Fitzgerald's version. With further selections, notes, biographies, bibliography, and other material collected and edited by Nathan Haskell Dole. 2 v. Boston, Joseph Knight Co., 1896.

Vol. 2 of this work is composed entirely of appendices, of which the bibliography comprises p. 438-544. The bibliography is arranged under the headings (1) Manuscripts and Oriental texts; (2) Translations; (3) Magazine literature. The critical notes on each are very full.

PSYCHOLOGY. The report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education for 1893-94 (v. 1, p. 465-467) contains a "Bibliography of psychology, 1893-94."

INDEXES.

GRIFFIN, Appleton P. C. *Index of the literature of American local history in collections, published in 1890-95 (with some others).* Boston, printed by Carl H. Heintzemann, 1896. 8+152 p. O. \$5.

Mr. Griffin's index will be warmly welcomed by the many librarians and historical students who have found its predecessor widely helpful. This work supplements, for the period 1890-95, the index originally contributed by Mr. Griffin to the Boston Public Library *Bulletin*, and later published as a volume of the "Bibliographies of special subjects," issued by that library. It indexes about 130 different works — historical magazines, transactions of societies, journals, etc. — most of which include a number of individual volumes. The arrangement is alphabetic, under name of place, entries are condensed as far as possible, and the compact octavo pages contain over 5000 references. An edition of 500 copies only has been printed, and there is no doubt that as a library reference manual and an aid to historical students the index will be constantly and generally useful. It gives immediate clue to much valuable and inaccessible historical and genealogical information. Copies may be purchased by addressing Mr. Griffin, in care of the Boston Athenæum.

CORRECTION. — Poole's Index, v. 3, 1887-92, p. 236, col. 1, three lines from bottom, after (M. Mackintosh) insert Education. — J. C. ROWELL.

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NO. 11

THE public libraries did a great service before election day in furnishing to students of the business question on which the election turned, the literature on both sides of the subject, and we have reason to believe, despite the criticisms of extremists, that no librarian failed to have the literature of both sides at the service of the public. Librarians throughout the country report an unusual demand for economic literature and an extraordinary rise of percentage of circulation in this field. This service should not stop with election day. There are millions of voters on the defeated side who will doubtless take a cheerful American view of the result and hope for the best. Such citizens ought to be encouraged to make further study of the subject, and indeed it behooves librarians everywhere to take advantage of the new interest in economics and the revival of interest in American history to decrease the fiction percentage and increase the percentage of directly useful reading. The feeling of the West against the East, so rampant before election day, is directly contrary to the national spirit, and the library profession everywhere ought to be missionaries of the national spirit. Therefore, without being partisans, librarians should everywhere stand ready to help in the national reconciliation which it is to be hoped will follow this eventful election.

THE statistics of A. L. A. membership, given elsewhere, form an interesting comparative exhibit of the progress of the association during its 20 years of existence, and at the same time of the development of library interests in general. Of the 103 who attended the organization meeting in Philadelphia in October, 1876, five were present at the Cleveland conference, to see in that gathering of nearly 400 of their craft the natural result of the Philadelphia meeting and of the intervening years. This element of natural growth, of sturdy continuity, is the most gratifying feature in the development of the association, and its most helpful presage for the future. In its short existence it has passed through many changes of tendency and scope, but these changes have been in accord with the spirit of the times, and its influence has been steadily a widening one. Of the

103 present at the Philadelphia conference but 13 were women; of the 327 registered at Cleveland but 123 were men. These figures show the extent of one change that has taken place in the library field, and a comparison of the proceedings of the earlier and more recent conferences shows others almost as notable. It has been pointed out that the library movement has so far had three distinct "periods." First came the technical period, when matters of routine method — classification, cataloging, and charging systems — were the first concern. The administrative period followed, and then the discussions dealt with questions of organization, of building, of management, and of public support. Now we have entered upon the sociologic period, and have set ourselves to solve the problems that meet the library in its relations to the people. The extension of reference work, libraries and schools, libraries in their relation to children, travelling libraries and home libraries — these were to the conference of 1896 what the card catalog, the shelf-list, and the registration book were to its predecessor of 1876. What relation the topics of to-day will hold to those presented at the 50th conference in 1926 is thus dimly shadowed by the reflection of the past.

THERE is no point where the library comes into such direct contact with the public as at the delivery-desk. The reference-room gives closer contact to a smaller number, but to the majority of readers the delivery-room is the library. Yet in too many of the larger libraries service at the delivery-desk is regarded as the least important service of all, and is performed by assistants whose work is perfunctory and mechanical. This is largely the fault of the librarian, who too often fails to recognize the importance of close and enthusiastic relations between the assistants and the library. No one person can represent an institution, and no librarian can fully live up to his opportunities without the sincere and friendly co-operation of his staff. Miss Cutler, in her study of the two fundamentals necessary to success in library work — one of the truest and most helpful utterances in the literature of the profession — has pointed out the trouble and the remedy, and Miss

Stearns in her paper printed elsewhere treats the subject from a rather different point of view, lucidly and effectively. The fusion of the diverse elements is to be brought about by what Miss Cutler calls the "human touch." A librarian who has the friendship and confidence of his staff, who meets them more than half way on the ground of common interests, who awakens their individuality and enthusiasm, and with whom the library is theirs as much as his, will find that his own aims become the aims of all, and that the one spirit is the life of the corporate body. If a man is known by his company, so too a librarian should be known by his assistants.

In the preparation of the American Catalogue and particularly in the bibliography of publishing societies, which forms one of the appendices, the increasing importance of the publications of learned or professional societies has been very noticeable. The issues of Johns Hopkins, Harvard, Columbia, Cornell, Chicago, and other universities, and several of the state universities, notably those of Wisconsin, Michigan, and California; the contributions to political and economic literature of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the Reform Club, the American Protective Tariff League, etc.; the issues of national and state professional societies in medicine, pedagogy, agriculture, etc.; the publications of the Grolier, Dunlap, Rowfant, and like printing clubs—all these are most important contributions to our literature or our book product, which too often fail to have record either in book-trade or in other bibliographies, and are not found with completeness in any one library catalog. In fact, the lack of completeness of the issues of societies is notable even in such collections as those of the Smithsonian Institution, Harvard University Library, and the Boston Public Library, all of which make a specialty of this class of publications. The list in the American Catalogue is sadly imperfect, although it has had the benefit of collation work from the libraries named and from authorities all over the country, and its inadequacy is the best proof of the need of careful attention to this class of bibliography. The universities, such as Columbia, Harvard, and Johns Hopkins, should indeed set an example of complete and accurate bibliographical record of their own publications, and possibly of the publications of their alumni, which should make a shining example to encourage others in the field of American bibliography.

Communications.

GILLISS'S EXPEDITION—A CORRECTION.

THE statement of Mr. Hickcox in the October JOURNAL, p. 440, needs correction. The third volume of Gilliss's U. S. Naval Astronomical Expedition was published in quarto in 1856, and forms Ex. Doc. Ho. Reps., No. 121, 33d Cong., 1st Session. It is devoted to the observations to determine the solar parallax. E. W. HALL.

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[Mr. Hickcox writes also to say that his reference should have been to vols. 4 and 5 of the "Expedition," and not to vols. 3 and 4.—ED. L. J.]

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WHERE, in the United States, are located collections of books bearing upon the subject of insurance? Has there ever been devised a scheme of classification for insurance matter?

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The association from which Miss Miller writes has probably the largest collection of works relating to every branch of insurance, its nucleus being the library of the late Cornelius Walford. Another large collection is that of the Insurance Library Association, of Boston, whose secretary answers Miss Miller's queries as follows:

The Insurance Library Association of Boston was incorporated in 1887, and has ever since maintained rooms, open during business hours, and in charge of a competent librarian, where books relating more especially to fire insurance matters can be consulted. All law-books relating to fire insurance, complete files of the insurance journals of the day, sets of state insurance reports for all the New England states and for New York state, maps of every village and city in New England states, cyclopædias, and special field-books of all sorts are on our shelves, and it is our aim to make our collection of fire insurance literature from every part of the world complete. The fact that the association was formed and is maintained by fire insurance men naturally leads to the library being specialized in their direction, but considerable life insurance literature also has been accumulated. So far as I know, no scheme of classification for insurance matter has yet been devised in a library sense. There are many different branches of insurance, such as fire, life, marine, accident, liability, burglary, etc., etc., and a vast amount of information relating thereto has been published from year to year in serial journals, to which no indexes have been made. If the work of a first-class insurance library is fully carried out, the matter of systematically classifying and indexing all the literature of the several branches of the business will be one of its most important ends.

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THE LIBRARIAN, ASSISTANTS, AND THE PUBLIC.*

By L. E. STEARNS, *Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.*

AN Italian traveller, upon writing of his travels in Italy, remarked that he should say very little about Italy, as he considered the subject altogether too hackneyed. And so we, for a somewhat similar reason, propose to say but little concerning the librarian of the past contrasted with the one of the present; nor shall we say much relating to the mission of the library of the past as compared with that of modern days. All these have been expatiated upon again and again; but the pages of the library periodicals and the A. L. A. proceedings fail to reveal more than two or three articles on the relation of the librarian to the assistant and *vice-versa*, and the relation of the librarian and the assistants to the public and *vice-versa*.

A year or more ago the LIBRARY JOURNAL contained an article reprinted from the official organ of the L. A. U. K. on "The librarian, by an assistant"—whose apparent object it was to air various and sundry grievances against his (very) superior officer. In the way of a classic of this kind, we would direct your attention to what we consider the most audacious arraignment of the powers that be that we have ever had the pleasure and displeasure of reading. It is a chapter entitled "The British Museum Library fifty years ago, and after," which is found in the "Literary recollections" of Francis Espinasse. The journal of Amiel and the confessions of Rousseau are as nothing in comparison with Espinasse's delineation of the heretofore exalted Panizzi. For example, we are told that "there was a certain Edward Edwards, who had earned his position in the Museum library by pamphlets full of ingenious suggestions for the improvement of the library. For some reason Panizzi took a violent dislike to Edwards and, it is recorded, even compelled him to shave his mustache, the existence of which, it was declared, was incompatible with the status of an assistant in the Library of the British Museum! More effective was his frequent reporting of Edwards to the trustees, on the most trivial grounds. 'One or other of them must go,' said Macaulay, and it was not Panizzi who went. In the course of his subse-

quent career, Edwards compiled the monumental works known as the 'Memoirs of libraries' and the 'Founders of the British Museum,' in the latter of which he heaped coals of fire on Panizzi's head by doing the amplest justice to his former chief's success in building up the Museum Library."

If time allowed, we would like, possibly, to change the word "Librarian" in our subject-heading to the phrase, "The one in authority"; for library experience has proven that the librarian is not always the executive head of a library; indeed, we have read annual reports gotten up wholly by boards of trustees, except the tables of statistics at the end, in which the librarians were, of necessity, compelled to figure.

Sometimes it is a member of the board who either dominates through political ends and often sways the other members against their better judgment, or it is a member who rules because he is allowed to, or perchance because he must, owing to the inherent weakness of the librarian, whom it is not deemed "expedient" to remove. Again, the one in authority is some assistant in the library, who has held his or her position since a remote past and has bred such a fear, through her thorough speaking acquaintance with the members of the board, that every new detail of library economy or administration is viewed from the standpoint of whether Mr. or Miss — would approve of the new arrangement.

In the majority of cases, however, the one in authority is, as he should be, the librarian. Mr. Crunden's Cleveland paper on trustees and librarians is so fresh in the minds of many that we will content ourselves with a new instance of trustees' unlimited confidence in the librarian. Happy, indeed, is the lot of the librarian whose book committee would let a notice of a desired purchase, such as the following, slip through unobserved and unchallenged:

"Polk, W. *L'Architecture Moderne*. Illustrations extraordinary. Edition will be limited to one copy, printed on palimpsest parchment, bound in half-chicken leather, crushed mouse-skin, or Irish bull; cannoned and shot by hand in wonderful designs. This superb work will

* A paper read before the Chicago Library Club, October 7, 1896.

be auctioned off by mail and sold to the three highest offers. Sealed bids opened May 1."

Library assistants in America have not, as yet, an Assistant's Corner in the LIBRARY JOURNAL or *Public Libraries*, in which their manifold doings and trials may be exploited, as in the organ of the L. A. U. K.; but we assure you these form a fruitful theme in the "side talks" and "heart-to-heart talks" (not about pillow-shams) of the few assistants that manage to attend the A. L. A. and kindred meetings.

It was recorded of a former manager of a western railroad that his assistants learned to gauge his daily temper by the angle or tilt of his slouched hat, which he invariably wore during business hours. If it were pulled far down over his eyes, no seekers after passes need apply; but if it were far back on his head, come one, come all for favors. Now, there are rumors that some such indicators as these are heralds of the official weather in library circles. The soundings may be variously described as "a dry cough," "a clearing of the throat," "a flicker of the eyes," "sour pursing of the lips," all or any of which assistants learn to know as danger-signals, and to dread fully as much as Socrates charged the Greeks to dread women and thunder. Some assistants say that they have always had a keen sympathy for Jane Welsh Carlyle, who, you remember, confessed that she would have been a deal happier if Thomas had not been so yellow. It is written, "It is not good for man to be alone; but, on the other hand, it is often far from good to be with him." We charge both librarian and assistants to heed the words of Emerson, who says, "If you have not slept or if you have slept, or if you have the headache, or leprosy, or thunder-bolt, I beseech you by all the angels to hold your peace and not pollute the morning. Come into the azure and love the day."

We suppose library economy will ever necessitate mechanical drudgery. Patent indexers, even with a music-box attachment, will not wholly alleviate the trials of those outside the cataloging department, who are required to paste, label, and pocket the books which they afterwards walk miles and miles in searching out and handing over the counter to people in whom they sometimes come to take little or no interest. Library assistants must be content to "spare delights and live laborious days." Conditions have ever been favorable for the assistant to be one of those fortunate individuals

who can labor for the honor of being a worker and not for the accumulation of wealth.

And yet, if the librarian wills, the assistant's lot can often be made a happy one. People are not drudges when impressed with a due sense of the importance of their work. Is there not some way of making your assistants realize the truth as Mr. Crunden so well expresses it, in his annual report for 1895, that "every detail of library administration has one and the same aim; the activities of every one connected with it, from president to messenger-boy, converging at the same point. The board determining the general policy of the institution and the apprentice pasting on labels are working towards the same end; that is, to get books into the hands of the people, to offer them every facility for reading and every inducement to read, and to do this with as little expense as is consistent with the accomplishment of what is the primary and ultimate object of the library's existence." Putting Mr. Crunden's idea in another way, we believe that the way to get the most out of assistants is to make them always feel that a library is a co-operative institution, where the ideas and suggestions of each member are necessary for the general good; to be grateful for ideas that result in time-saving, other economy, or increased business; to treat assistants constantly as men and women, not machines, and encourage them to think hard and take ever-increasing interest in their work. Study well your staff, that in case of a vacancy the capable, the faithful, the honest, the industrious, do not behold a Judas exalted.

The librarian who never asks the opinion of his assistants, and depends entirely upon his own judgment in every instance, certainly loses a host of valuable ideas. But we are told that in some cases there is no inducement for the assistant to make suggestions, which he knows will be received with coldness, and may even be regarded as an impertinence. The librarian should realize that the advance of an original idea by an employe always means the advance of the employer's interests. Again, if you have good employes, you will find it to your advantage to allow them some discretion in such service. A good employe will work better, work longer, and more satisfactorily to himself and to you if allowed to go forward in his own way than he would if compelled to conform in the minutest details to your own thoughts and ideas.

Many librarians of large libraries wear themselves out in attending to the most trivial matters of library economy, instead of delegating such duties or supervision to assistants and heads of departments. We are told that it is a moving spectacle to see a \$3000 librarian checking off the morning's budget of newspapers! "In the full administration of his trust the librarian adopts such machinery and organization as will lessen his own necessity or importance, and he therefore trains his assistants to take his place, testing them from time to time, and gradually placing responsibility as he deems him or her capable or trustworthy," but in doing all this the librarian should not make the mistake of putting too much on one pair of shoulders. Care should be exercised to promote an even distribution of labor. We recall a library recently visited, on a hot summer's day, in which five strong young men were found idly waiting for something to do at the receiving window, while the assistants in another department were "rushed to death," as some one expressed it. This calls up the desirability of an exchange of work by the library staff. We remember our astonishment at the Columbian Conference of 1893 to hear a prominent librarian state that his catalogers considered it beneath them to work in the circulating department of his library! We rejoice to know that in two of our library training-schools, at least, the fact is emphasized that the most important part of a library is the point at which it comes most in contact with the public.

Every position in the library should have an understudy or overstudy regularly employed there, so that in case of an absence, the whilom substitute may be set at scraping illegible labels and not be placed in charge of a reference-room or the cataloging department. The assistant should not only learn all that he is capable of learning within his own library as fast as his powers admit, but he should come in touch with the library world outside his own meagre range. He can acquire this in two ways: through library periodicals and through acquaintance with others of the craft.

First, as to periodicals: It is generally customary for the librarian and office staff to read the succeeding numbers of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, *Public Libraries*, and the *Library*, and then carefully file them away to prevent loss or injury. Whatever inspiration or new thoughts they may contain never reach the great or

small corps of library assistants. The recent establishment of a library periodical which may be had at a ridiculously low price has removed the barrier which may have existed in the way of deterring every library from taking a copy of a trade journal for every member of the staff.

There is much, too, which comes to librarians in their acquaintance with others in the profession which assistants never feel. In an article on the "Anonymous assistant" (*L. J.*, July, 1895), we suggested that the librarian to whom A. L. A. conferences have become hackneyed might send some member of his force in his stead, and then upon her return call a meeting of the library staff and have a description given of the work accomplished and new ideas suggested for the benefit of those who could not go.

In this connection we wish to speak of the influence which the last meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association had upon the corps of workers in the Milwaukee Library. At the request of the librarian the board of trustees voted to close the circulating department of the library, that all the assistants might attend the conference at Racine. Every member availed herself of the privilege. The effect of that conference has been far-reaching and lasting. Mr. Larned's address on the "Mission and missionaries of books" changed the ones who thought themselves drudges into library enthusiasts; and all the other exercises were no less helpful. The exercise conducted by the senior class of the Library School of the Armour Institute, on ways of cataloging, charging, and other details of library economy, started a discussion which is unending, as a recently inaugurated question-box will attest. The interest since displayed in matters of library practice has compensated the library a thousand-fold for the few lost hours and the public for a brief inconvenience which has been more than recompensed by a greater interest in their wants and a greater enthusiasm in supplying them. During the coming winter meetings of the assistants in the circulating and cataloging departments will be held every two weeks for discussion of library problems and social intercourse. Attendance is not compulsory. All meet on an equal footing. There are no constitution, no dues, no officers, no bores, no formality; simply inspiration and recreation. The subjects which have thus far

been discussed by different members are: Ideals in library life; The greatest living author; Library schools and training classes; Library architecture; Travelling libraries; Methods of classification; Cataloging; Children's departments; Justification of fairy-tales; British Museum Library; Cleveland Conference of 1896. The Library School at Albany holds similar meetings, and Mr. Dana, of Denver, meets his staff at his home once a week. At one of these meetings recently, Mr. Dana read his annual report and asked for comments upon it paragraph by paragraph. The result is one of the most admirable reports ever issued from a library. After such care as this there is no danger that the reader will discover the mention of the death of the president of a board under the head of "Donations"—as was recently observed in a report received from another library.

We have lingered too long upon the relations between the librarian and the assistant. What of the public? We are constrained to believe that there is not in the minds of the majority of folk a sufficient reason for the library's existence; at least if it is there, they fail to show it to any great extent, as may be amply demonstrated to the complete dissatisfaction of the average librarian at any time by comparing the number of his actual book-borrowers with the population of his city. In reply to this we may be told that it is only "another instance of the fatal insufficiency of statistics when they attempt to weigh the imponderable, to measure the intellectual, and to price the spiritual," as Mr. Cutter has expressed it. But notwithstanding all this, the fact remains that the average library does not, for example, make its existence known to the public through the press, save through tables of monthly statistics, the utility of which in the modern newspaper may be compared with the school-boy's famous definition of the constitution of the United States, as "that part in the back of a United States history that is never read."

Every book in your library, with the possible exception of fiction, is dependent for readers upon a certain limited number of borrowers. But in attempting to reach these possible readers we are told that this is the age of the newspaper, and that the modern library cannot do much against the daily-one-cent-delivered-at-your-door-24-paged record of races, murders, and scandals; and yet we be-

lieve that if people are only made to know about it, a new book or a new development of thought may be made to rival even these "breathless interests." In what way do we encourage a man to take up a course of reading, or even to refresh himself after a hard day's labor? A close study of the existing rules and regulations of the libraries in the larger cities reveals, in the first place, that we require our citizen to make three long trips to the library before he is permitted to receive a card—an operation which is only rivalled by the dogged persistence of the faithful and untiring bill-collector. Then we require him to search through catalogs and indexes without end, and if he is deceived by a title and obtains the wrong book, we compel him to take it home with him, even though he live six miles from the library, as we do not exchange books the day they are issued; or if our hero should unwittingly incur a fine which he cannot temporarily liquidate, we do not mark the amount on his card as a reminder to bring the sum the next time and incur his everlasting good-will by letting him have one more book; no, we deprive him of his card and send him back his six miles with nothing to show for his journey or car-fare but internal hardness of heart. This is only one of the charges which may be brought against us in the popular indictment of offensive partisanship in keeping our books on our shelves; but we trust it is enough to demonstrate that the lot of the borrower is not a happy one and that the system is not conducive to emulation on its merits. We know of libraries in which rules are broken to aid reasonable patrons; books used for study are renewed on the 15th day, if necessary; fines are excused for many causes; everything is done within reasonable limits to win, accommodate, and keep patrons; and the best of it all is, the librarians of two such institutions tell us, the first public or private charge of favoritism or partiality is yet to be brought against this flexible system.

In conclusion: We wrote to a bright assistant the other day and asked her what we should emphasize in our talk upon the relation between the librarian and the assistant. Back came the one word, "Sympathy." As a fellow-assistant, our last word is, "Let us unite to enforce the truth that let a man but honor his calling, however lowly, the calling will soon be the honor of the man."

CORPORATE AUTHORSHIP.

By W. I. FLETCHER, *Librarian Amherst College.*

WHEN I read a paper before the A. L. A. in 1889 on "Library superstitions," I failed to mention what now seems to me one of the most flagrant, namely, "corporate" authorship. For I am really at a loss to account for the sacrifice of practical utility and convenience involved in "corporate" authorship as a principle in cataloging except on the ground of an unreasoning following of an established practice because it is established. Having become convinced of its absurdity as a working principle, I abandoned it some eight or 10 years ago, and have enjoyed the change so much that I have intended long since to call attention to its advantages, especially to warn novices against the intricacies and perils of the "corporate" road.

Cutter's Rules say (and all other American catalog rules, so far as I know, agree):

"§ 39. Bodies of men are to be considered as authors of works published in their name or by their authority."

In a certain theoretical sense there is truth in the idea that a government or a society is "author" of the works it issues. Still it is only a minority, and a small one, of such publications, of which even theoretically the corporate body can be said to be "author." The journals and acts of a legislative body, the messages and proclamations of an executive officer, the proceedings and manuals of a society constitute most of this minority of publications. The great majority of issues under the auspices of governments or of societies are those toward which the government or the society stands as publisher much more strictly than as author. A large portion of them have their individual authors, and this is reason enough why they, at any rate, should be primarily cataloged under their proper authors' names. Again, another large share of government publications properly have a subject entry under the name of the country or place, as the reports on geology, education, health, statistics, etc., of a country, state, or city. It is therefore readily seen that, in this theoretical view of the case, there is abundant occasion for confusion and reduplication of entries if the corporate authorship idea is allowed to prevail. And in practice, as well as in theory, the confusion exists and seems unavoidable.

If we look, for example, at the Boston Athenæum catalog, as good an example as can be

found of the faithful and painstaking carrying out of the American cataloging rules and methods, including the corporate-authorship idea, we find some striking examples. Under Massachusetts there are 10 pages of "Mass. as author" and five pages of "Mass. as subject." In the first section we find the sub-heading "Board of Education" with entries for the different sets of educational reports of Massachusetts. In the second section we have again the heading "Education" [In Mass. as a subject], but the reports, which constitute the best part of the material on that subject, are not entered under this heading. That is to say, it seems absurd to enter them twice under Massachusetts, once as author and once as subject, and so they are omitted in the most practically useful place, because already entered, for technical reasons, elsewhere. What is true of this case is true throughout the catalog under the names of states, and especially under United States, where confusion is worse confounded by the mass of House and Senate documents entered under those bodies as authors.

My practice, since abandoning the "corporate-authorship" idea, has been that of the German libraries, which is spoken of in Linderfelt's "Eclectic rules," based on Dziatzko, as follows:

"Dziatzko . . . considers all works issued by corporate bodies as anonymous, for the purposes of entry."

This statement should be understood to mean that if a corporately issued book has no individual author it is treated as anonymous. Accepting this principle, government documents are entered under the name of the country, not as author, but sometimes as subject, sometimes more properly as a series entry. For example, our catalog exhibits the U. S. documents as well as books of any kind relative to the United States, entered under the heading United States, with sub-headings of which the following is a partial list:

Agriculture, Army, Atlases, Attorney-General, Banking, Boundaries, Census, Civil service, Coast survey, Coinage, Congress, Constitution and government, Consuls, Currency, Description and travel, Diplomacy, Education, Engineers . . . History (with chronological subdivisions), etc.

It may be said there is "confusion" here, in

that while some of these are properly subject-headings others are not. But if one once rises above the demands of mere logic and theory, and applies practical common-sense to the subject, it is seen to make no difference what these subdivisions are, in a true sense, provided they make a handy and satisfactory arrangement under the general heading United States, and experience shows that they do.

When we turn to the other class of corporate headings, the names of societies, institutions, and all corporate bodies other than governments, the case is even simpler. The entry under the name of the society becomes practically a catchword title-entry, the name of the society being the "catchword." Proceedings of the Royal Society of London is the title of a set of books. "Royal Society, Proceedings," or "London, Royal Society, Proceedings," is simply a title-entry with the necessary inversion, quite analogous to that which occurs in all author entries.

Every year that I use the German system as to corporate entries strengthens my feeling that it is the only sensible and satisfactory plan. And I advise all who are not "too superstitious," to give it a fair trial. Not in many points can we Americans learn cataloging from Germany, but I am sure this is one such point, and perhaps "there are others."

I am aware that I have made only a very meagre representation of this subject. To exemplify the application of the principle advocated to various kinds of individual cases would take much space, and is really unnecessary. The present purpose is to offer a suggestion to those competent to work out its details, and to give the assurance of very satisfactory actual results with the proposed practice in a library of 60,000 volumes for a number of years, and in six years' experience with my summer training classes. To me the new practice has been truly "like the shadow of a great rock in a weary land."

DIFFICULTIES IN THE DEWEY CLASSIFICATION AND THEIR ADJUSTMENTS.*

BY W. L. R. GIFFORD, *Librarian Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library.*

SOME years ago, when it was decided that the New Bedford Public Library must be reclassified, and when those upon whom the duty devolved were considering the comparative merits of several systems of classification, a gentleman long versed in library science said to me, "Whichever system you may choose, you'll soon wish you had dropped the whole thing and had studied law." Since that time it has so happened that I have had something to do with the classification of three libraries, and although I have not yet sought the prospects of relief held forth by the legal profession, it may be safely admitted that the temptation has at times presented itself.

The method of classification which was adopted at the time of which I speak, and which I have since been using, was the decimal or Dewey system. In the 20 years and more during which this system has been in use, its merits and defects have become well known to the library world in general. And whatever criticisms we may see fit to pass upon it, the fact that the system has been adopted by so many libraries, which have thereby become to a greater or less degree pledged to its

support and development, constitutes now one of its strongest recommendations to favor. For any system which serves to bring about greater uniformity in cataloging not only saves time and labor to the library employing it but becomes in a measure a source of convenience to the public through the widespread use of similar call numbers for similar classes of books.

When we turn to the difficulties to be encountered in using the Dewey classification, we are met at the outset by the incongruities in the divisions of the main classes. The sum total of human knowledge cannot be divided into 10 parts without grouping together in some of those parts subjects of which the relationship is more imaginary than real. The same difficulty would arise, to a greater or less extent, were the base some other number than 10. Viewed from the practical side, however, this inevitable defect has always seemed to me of comparatively small importance. Take, for example, the case so often cited, of Amusements. This forms the heading of the last division in the Fine arts class, and one can hardly help suspecting that this place was chosen chiefly because no thoroughly satisfactory location could be found. One may well refuse to recognize amusements as being in any sense

*A paper read before the Massachusetts Library Club at Woburn, October 7, 1896.

fine arts, though possibly the devotees of whist or of private theatricals might set up a defence of some sort. But in reality the division is an independent one and causes no inconvenience in the place to which Mr. Dewey has assigned it, although it may have no theoretical right to be there.

It is undoubtedly to be regretted that class 7 was not made Philology instead of class 4. This department would then have occupied the numerical position immediately preceding the closely allied department of Literature. As it is, the 400s can of course be placed on the shelves in immediate proximity to the 800s (Literature); but it would have been at least a source of satisfaction had the natural sequence been observed. For similar reasons, it would be desirable to have the Sociology class located next to that of History.

I should greatly overrun the amount of time at my disposal, and exhaust your patience as well, if I attempted to take up all the perplexing questions that arise in the course of cataloging a large library by the Dewey classification. To enumerate, however, a few of the objectionable features, let me first mention the subject of Finance. Section 332 is devoted to Money, banking, and coinage, while 336 is given over to Finance, so-called, and includes the subdivisions of state domain and properties, taxation, loans and public securities, and the financial operations of special countries. It is both difficult and unsatisfactory to separate books dealing with state finance from those which treat of the broad questions of money and banking. And even if the present division lines be upheld, then the two sections should be placed side by side, instead of being separated as they now are by the sections devoted respectively to land, co-operation, and socialism. As a matter of usage, I employ the proper subdivision of 336 (Finance) for books on taxation exclusively and make as little use as possible of the rest of the section.

Comment has often been made on the inadequate treatment of the division assigned to Law, number 340. I have found the lines of separation between general works on law (340) and those dealing with American and English private law (347) somewhat confused and misleading. The section most used by public libraries, since the average public library buys few law books, is the one comprising constitutional law and history (342). This section is satisfactory, except in the case of special historical

libraries, where, for example, it is desired, especially for the assistance of students admitted to the shelves, to group together by periods everything relating to the history of a country. In that case the simplest solution is to disregard entirely the section of constitutional law and to locate everything in its proper chronological subdivision of class 9 (History). In a library of this kind, moreover, many biographies, Masson's "Milton" for instance, would probably be taken from the class to which they naturally belong and would be located in a similar way. It is proper to add that a revision of the subject of law is expected in the next edition of the Decimal classification.

Section 353 of division 350 (Administration) is given over to "United States and state government," and provision has been made for very close classification. As so many of the departmental publications of the United States government are best located with the subjects of which they treat, this section is to many libraries of a trifle less importance than it would appear at first sight. And as for the cataloging of the sheep sets of United States documents, it has never been my privilege to see a library where in this particular the Dewey arrangement was closely followed. In the treatment of these documents librarians are apt to give a free rein to their individual tastes; and when one considers the awful mystery which has hitherto surrounded the government scheme of publication, the deviations of the catalogers need excite no surprise. I will merely point out that in following the Dewey plan care should be taken that no confusion arise between the departmental publications, which belong in 353, and those of the legislative body, assigned to 328. And to preserve the unity of sets, a definite choice of location must once for all be made, in some instances, and then strictly followed.

In section 378, devoted to Colleges, a somewhat complicated scheme is presented for the classification in detail of all college publications. The chief objection to this plan is that it necessitates the use of letters in the book number in an entirely different way from any in which they are commonly employed in other parts of the system. A careful examination of the scheme has convinced me that it has many practical advantages for a large library which collects the minor publications of many colleges. But, except in such instances, I think a close classi-

fication as to locality will give all necessary freedom without adopting the suggested innovation in the book number.

The next subject to which I may call attention is Electricity. The divisions of section 537, to which electricity is assigned, are inadequate to meet the needs of what has now become a highly differentiated science. Sub-sections 5 and 6, devoted respectively to dynamical electricity and electro-dynamics, are particularly confusing to any one who starts out with the idea that he must make use of both. Sub-section 8 is to be used, if so desired, for applied electricity, although this branch of the science properly forms a sub-section of mechanical engineering. A trial of both locations has convinced me that it is more convenient, for the present, at least, to keep the books on applied electricity with those treating of the pure science, and hence I prefer 537.8 to 621.3, and for the additional reason that the latter number fails equally with 537 to provide for electrical science as we have it today. It seems to me that in the next edition of the Decimal classification it will be found necessary to revise and extend both the topics of electricity and electrical engineering. And with this possibility in view, the present practice of many libraries in attempting very little subdivision is perhaps the best course.

The divisions treating of Chemistry and Botany are subdivided to meet the supposed needs of large scientific libraries, and here, as in all other cases where the classification is minute, libraries which only cover the ground in a general way are not expected to make use of it. I may only mention, in passing, that while I have never had occasion to employ the closest classification in these subjects, I have nevertheless found instances where the proper location of the book in hand could not be clearly determined. In botany, for example, the analysis is so close that it often seems necessary to make an arbitrary choice between two, or more, equally suitable locations; and the latest books contain groups of plants which are not distinctly defined by the sub-sections as we have them.

Before leaving the subject of botany let me mention another feature that is slightly perplexing. The place made for books on plants and flowers, viewed from the standpoint of gardening and not from that of botany, is in section 716 in the division of Landscape gardening. This plan of necessity separates at times books

which are closely related, and the results are not always satisfactory, particularly in a library with open shelves. At the same time, I do not think the objections of sufficient importance to render necessary, in a general library at least, any modification of the scheme presented.

No one has made use of the Dewey system without feeling the lack of a definite location for books dealing with nature and outdoor life. The Decimal classification, following in this case the form rather than the subject-matter, evidently intends such books to be classed with literature, chiefly in the sections devoted to American and English essays and miscellany. Since by a strict adherence to this plan the books become somewhat widely scattered, I have found it desirable, in common with some other librarians, to seek a location in which some of them, at least, might be grouped together, and which might bring them at the same time into a little closer relationship with the subjects of which they actually treat. For this purpose I have used subdivision 4 of 590, which is supposed to be given up to essays on zoölogy. Most of the books referred to might be classed with equal propriety under botany. But since they have no place which is strictly their own, an arbitrary choice of this kind is not likely to meet every requirement; and to my mind the results are more satisfactory than when no subject classification at all is attempted. Moreover, the locations under literary essays and miscellany are still available, as before, for all books about nature in which the scientific side (if I may so term it) is of slight importance.

In regard to class 8 (Literature), I may say in general that I think the simplicity of one alphabetical arrangement in each section is to be preferred to the detailed analysis made possible by the special numbers assigned to individual writers. In particular it seems to me that a subdivision by periods of such subjects as American drama (812) or of English letters (826) is entirely unnecessary. On the other hand, a chronological division of English poetry, for example, is of great value where the collection is a large one. The individual author numbers, even though not employed as a rule, may be useful where it is desired to group together many editions of a writer's works as well as a large amount of literature concerning him. The most notable example is of course Shakespeare, and many are the modifications of the Decimal classification that have

been made on his account. I have found it convenient to reserve the Shakespeare number (822.33) for editions of his works, arranged by Cutter numbers according to the names of the editors, and to use 822.3 as a class number for books about Shakespeare, arranged in a similar way by the names of the authors. This enables one to keep the entire Shakespeare library together and at the same time to have the bibliography and criticism apart from the plays themselves. One entire sub-section of English drama is thereby devoted to one writer, but his relative importance is sufficiently great, in my opinion, to warrant a modification of this kind. And for libraries possessing large collections of English drama properly belonging in the same subdivision with Shakespeare, I would suggest the consolidation of sub-sections 1 and 2 of 822. The extra sub-section thus acquired may be used to meet the needs of the group of Elizabethan dramatists in whatever way may best suit the fancy of the cataloger.

As the circulation of fiction is such a predominating feature in public libraries, the Dewey arrangement has here been materially changed by almost every library employing it. Perhaps the most common substitute is to place all English prose fiction (including translations into English) into one alphabet, arranged by Cutter author numbers, and with the theoretical class number omitted for convenience in charging. I need not enlarge upon the practical usefulness of this plan, which is already familiar to you. The practice necessitates, also as a matter of convenience, the classification of all fiction according to the language, whereas in other departments of literature it is customary to follow the Dewey arrangement in locating with the original texts all translations, in whatever tongue.

When we turn to Biography, which is one of the divisions of the History class, we find that the Dewey classification suggests several methods of arrangement, of which the comparative merits depend entirely on the character of the library under consideration. The principal scheme, by which the subject is subdivided on the basis of the entire classification, seems to me somewhat impracticable. The analysis is carried so far that there would seem to be danger of hopelessly losing track of the biographies of persons who were remarkable for nothing in particular. And, all other objections aside, the scheme seems calculated to

necessitate somewhat too close a dependence upon the catalog at the expense of free recourse to the shelves. For a public library I think the simplest way is to arrange all individual biography in one alphabet of the names of persons written about and to use the letter B as a class number. Where this plan is followed, I find it satisfactory to place collective biography also in one alphabet, arranged in this case by authors, with 920 as a class number. The main sections of 920 can of course be used for collective biography if it be desired to subdivide to that extent. But it seems to me at least open to question whether the gain from this analysis be worth the increase from one alphabet to nine.

In a reference library, where biography as a separate division has no such importance as in a public circulating library, it may be highly advantageous to treat the subject in an entirely different manner. Even in this case I should prefer to use another of the Dewey alternatives instead of the plan given in the tables. The method by which biography is distributed, as far as possible, among the different classes, so that the lives of chemists are grouped with chemistry and those of musicians with music, has much to recommend it and is particularly worthy of consideration by scientific libraries.

Of modern history I may say in general that the adoption of period divisions will save time in the end. Even in small libraries the need of close classification is likely to be felt, and especially in the instances of England, France, and one's own state. An improvement might have been made in the relative order of the history divisions, had the geographical location been more carefully considered in a few places. It would be better to have Mexico and Central America immediately preceding South America, and to have Alaska nearer British America. These changes would be of less importance, so far as history itself is concerned, than in the case of books of description and travel. But since the latter have the same relative arrangement as the histories of different countries, any criticism passed upon one must apply equally to both.

I have tried in the foregoing remarks to indicate, especially for any who may contemplate adopting the Dewey system, a few of the features which I have found not wholly satisfactory. To have attempted anything like a detailed review of the elaborate system of classification as it now stands would have taken

me far beyond the necessarily brief limits of this paper. I have said little or nothing of the merits of the system, because I was asked to treat about what seemed to me some of its defects. But if I did not believe it to possess very decided value, I should long ago have sought something to use in its stead. The system is flexible, and, considering what it aims to do, is not complicated. In particular the mnemonic principle in the classification, to employ Mr. Dewey's phrase, is so ingeniously worked out that the novice soon finds he has translated what appeared to be a mass of somewhat bewildering figures into intelligible and easily remembered symbols. The adaptability of the system should not tempt one, however, to make innovations of his own with too great freedom, for what may seem in one place a simple change may prove a source of confusion in connection with some other sections which are closely allied. And until one has become thoroughly acquainted with the method of combining numbers, he will find advisable to use the classification as he finds instead of seeking a drastic remedy for every apparent difficulty. —

RADCLIFFE COLLEGE LIBRARY, AND ITS CLASSIFICATION.

At the opening of the "Harvard Annex," in Cambridge, Mass., a library was started with a collection of about 50 books. The number of volumes grew slowly at first, then more rapidly, until at the end of 13 years about 5500 volumes were gathered on the shelves of the attractive library occupying the upper floor of Fay House.

Some of the shelves had at this time become outgrown. New books were crowding the old out of their places, and it was thought best that a modern method of classification should replace the shelf numbers.

During the past three years, working only in term time, while carrying on the routine of the library, the librarian and her assistant have classified and cataloged the books, which have meanwhile increased in number to 9500 volumes. That no one should be deprived of the use of a single book for even a moment, it was necessary to give the old shelf numbers to many of the new books while awaiting their places in the new scheme. As the task is now essentially completed, it may be of interest to the readers of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* to hear about the working of this practical experiment.

After visiting the libraries within reach, and studying published schemes, the Dewey Decimal classification was taken as a guide in shelving the books, the first three figures being generally used; for countries and in exceptional cases four and five figures,

For book numbers, consecutive numerals have been used with few exceptions where simple author tables seemed desirable. For example, Modern philosophers (199) are grouped together under an alphabet of the philosophers, books being added by accession under each letter of the alphabet. Biography has been placed when possible with the subject illustrated. Remaining biographies have been classed under 920, with consecutive book numbers for collective biography, followed by individual biographies, under an alphabet of the individuals.

English literature, which will illustrate the literatures of countries, is arranged as follows:

820 with consecutive book numbers represents collections of English authors, followed by History of English literature under an alphabet of authors.

821 represents the earliest English literature to the time of Chaucer, 1350.

822 From Chaucer to Elizabeth, 1350-1550.

823 From Elizabeth to the Restoration, 1550-1660.

824 From the Restoration to the death of Pope and Swift, 1660-1745.

825 From the death of Pope and Swift to the French Revolution, 1745-1789.

826 From the French Revolution to the death of Scott, 1789-1832.

827 From the death of Scott—, 1832—.

The periods given are the literary periods used in the library of Harvard University in the classification of its English literature.

The authors of each period are grouped together under an alphabet; under each letter of the alphabet, the books are added by accession. The works of an author and the books about him are placed together, the order being kept by the following table:

BOOK NUMBERS FOR AUTHORS' WORKS.

1. Complete works. (822C1-1.1 means Chaucer. Complete works.)
2. Partial editions.
3. Single works. (822C1-3.L means Chaucer. Legend of good women.)
4. Selections and extracts.
5. Translations by the author when not placed after the work translated.
6. Letters.
7. Criticism and commentaries on the author.
8. Magazine articles, etc.
9. Biography.
10. Society publications.
11. Dictionaries, concordances, etc.
12. Bibliography.

Classification and book numbering together present an adjustment of compromises. The plan here sketched for a college library, while it may be open to much criticism, is perfectly elastic and leaves no gaps to be filled in.

The readers in this library go to the shelves and are expected to return each book after using it to its place. The book-marks being easily understood and usually brief, little difficulty is found and very few books are misplaced.

When a special course of study is given, as on the English drama, the books for the required reading are selected and placed together on a shelf by themselves, and are called "reserved books." These may be carried home by the students at the end of the day and kept overnight. The books are charged on brown manilla slips, each student writing her name and the number of the book she takes on the card which she drops into a box kept for the purpose. In the morning the book is returned by the borrower to its place on the reserved shelf and the card is taken from the box and placed where it can be counted. During the last academic year about 4500 reserved books were taken out overnight by the students.

Books which are not reserved may be kept a month, and are charged on regular cards. The student writes her initials, name, and address at the top of a card of the color assigned to her class, serving the double purpose of giving a specimen of her handwriting to be referred to in case of need, and saving the time of the librarian. These cards are kept by the librarian in the charging-box. When a book is to be taken out, the book-card is withdrawn from the pocket at the back of the book, is dated, the student writing her initials after the date, and is placed with cards bearing the same date in the charging-box, after its number has been transferred to the card of the borrower. A third card has been found most useful in identifying at a glance the whereabouts of a book. This card of brown manilla paper, having the class and book numbers of the book at the top, is dated, any necessary note being added, and placed in the indicator. When the book in question is to be returned to its own place, the book and indicator cards are dated and returned to the pocket at the back of the book. As it has cost some thought to reduce these technical details to the simplest form, they have been minutely described here in the hope that some librarian in a library similar to this may find some helpful suggestion.

Our card catalog is of the dictionary kind, formed by a comparison of the B. P. L., Boston Athenæum, and Peabody Institute Library catalogs. Since the A. L. A. "List of subject headings" has appeared, it has been also taken into consideration, and the Harvard University Library subject catalog gives many hints.

This library is supported by a yearly appropriation made by Radcliffe College. It has received many volumes by gift. The collection of a hundred books on American slavery is from the library of the late William P. Atkinson, of Boston, given as a memorial to himself and his wife, who were "life-long abolitionists." The department of science is being greatly strengthened by the generosity of a friend.

A bequest of \$5000 has been lately received by the library, the income of which will be used for books in English literature. It is known as the "Bessie Hincks memorial" in memory of one of the early "Harvard Annex" students.

CAROLINE A. FARLEY, *Librarian*.

THE LONDON BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CONFERENCE.

THE *Mémorial de la Librairie Française*, in its issue for Oct. 15, contains an interesting summary by M. J. Deniker of the proceedings of the international conference on scientific bibliography held this summer under the auspices of the Royal Society in London. M. Deniker traces the history of the movement from the efforts made by the Royal Society in 1894 to obtain the necessary funds to continue its valuable "Catalogue of scientific papers" to the end of the century, and to add to its author record a subject index. Thanks to the aid of one of the members of that learned body, Dr. L. Mond, who has offered to spend £1000 each year from 1896 to 1899 in the service of the catalog, they have been able to enter at once upon the task, and at the present time a dozen young women, under the skilled direction of Mrs. Chambers, are engaged at the office of the society, in cutting and pasting upon cards the hundreds of thousands of printed titles from the "Catalogue of scientific papers," which are to be classified for the future subject index.

But the Royal Society has thought of the future as well as of the past. Forewarned by experience, they have rightly believed that to have a *complete* catalog of the current scientific literature of all the world, it was necessary — nay, indispensable — to appeal to an assembly of learned bodies and bibliographers from all countries. This was the pivotal point, and the idea of an international conference was its natural result in the minds of those charged with the elaboration of the plan for the new catalog. Consequently, early in 1895 the Royal Society presented its plan to the governments of the civilized world, requesting each to designate their delegates for such a conference.

After some preliminaries 25 governments responded favorably to the request, and the delegates, to the number of 41, met in London, July 13–20, of the present year, at the quarters of the society in Burlington House. France was represented by four delegates, of whom but two, MM. Darboux and Deniker, took part in the conference. The countries represented at the conference were: Austro-Hungary, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Low Countries, Mexico, Natal, New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, South Africa, Sweden and Norway, Switzerland and the United States. The Russian delegate M. Stassof, in charge of the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg, and the Portuguese delegate were unable to attend the gathering on account of illness.

M. Deniker describes the proceedings of the conference in some detail, and gives the full text of the more important resolutions adopted, which have been previously summarized in these columns (L. J., August p. 370–371). He says: "It is evident that in the midst of a throng of purely technical questions the conference could not linger over all the details and minor rules to be followed in the elaboration of

an international scientific catalog; but the unanimity of opinion that was the result of the discussions is a sure guarantee that the general lines of the enterprise were thoroughly planned." Of the 28th resolution, stating that "as the conference was unable to accept any of the schemes of classification proposed, the subject was referred to the committee of organization," he says: "This resolution was carried unanimously, save for the abstention of the Belgian delegates. The latter had proposed the Dewey decimal classification, which met with very strong opposition in the assembly and with almost general disapprobation."

English was adopted as the language of the catalog, but authors' names and titles are to be given only in the original languages, except when these belong to a category to be determined by the international council. Of this Dr. Deniker says: "According to this resolution the catalog will be definitely published in several languages, except those which do not use Latin characters, and indeed it is more than likely that they will be able to publish titles in Russian, Bulgarian, or Servian characters, so that there would only remain an unimportant number of publications in Japanese, Chinese, or Arabic characters. Only the titles of the chapters of the catalog and the subject headings will be in English. Besides, the titles of works published in little-known languages (Magyar, Japanese, the Slav, Finnish, and Scandinavian tongues, etc.) will be translated into English. It may also be foreseen that all the explanations, or at least the subject headings and titles of chapters, will be translated into French, German, and perhaps other languages. This was indicated by the discussion that preceded the following resolution: 'The committee shall suggest any details which will tend to render the catalog of the greatest possible use in countries unfamiliar with the English language.'"

After giving the resolutions setting the date for the beginning of the catalog as Jan. 1, 1900, M. Deniker says: "Such was the preliminary arrangements for this great work of the future. Most of the resolutions were voted on with general unanimity, and outside of the official sessions the members of the conference found themselves together almost constantly. The welcome given to the foreign delegates was most cordial. An animated evening at the Royal Society, a brilliant reception at the Lord Mayor's, a charming garden party tendered by Dr. Mond, and a banquet at the Hotel Metropole given by the Royal Society and presided over by the celebrated surgeon, Lister, are the best proofs that the English spared nothing to render agreeable to the foreign delegates their sojourn in the capital.

"Definitely, without clamor, very seriously, and in practical spirit the foundations of a great bibliographical work which, it may be hoped, will be an honor to the 20th century, were laid in London in July, 1896.

"Four years are not too much in which to prepare and elaborate all the details of this immense enterprise, which is destined to render the greatest service to science and to scholars."

INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY IN ITALY.

ON Sept. 25 and 26 there was held in the hall of the Circolo Filologico of Florence a bibliographical conference, under the auspices of the Associazione Tipografico-libreria Italiana, which had invited the librarians and publishers of Italy to meet and discuss the question of whether they should officially approve the bibliographical scheme proposed at the international conference of Brussels in 1895, and should particularly decide to contribute to the compilation of a universal bibliography "accepting as the only international system of classification the decimal system of Melvil Dewey." The conference was attended by most of the publishers then in Florence in their annual convention. Among the librarians who took part were Domenico Gnoli, of the Nazionale Centrale di Roma, Luigi De Marchi, of the University of Pavia, Giuseppe Fumagalli, of the University of Naples, Prof. Bruto Teloni, of the National Library of Florence, Attilio Pagliani, of the University of Genoa, Angelo Bruschi, of the Marucellian Library of Florence, Alfonso Miola, of the National Library of Naples, and a number of assistant librarians, among them Prof. Barbi, of the National Central Library of Florence, and Sig. Bonanno, of the National Library of Turin. Others present were Prof. Adolfo Targioni Tozzetti, Prof. Alessandro D'Ancona, Prof. Cesare Paoli, and Prof. Petrocchi. The Institute Internationale of Brussels was represented by its general secretary, P. Otlet, with whom was M. Junker, a delegate from Austro-Hungary. The presiding officers were Sig. Pietro Vallardi, president, and Signors Piero Barbera and Filippo Salveraglio.

Sig. Giuseppe Fumagalli, representing the Associazione Tipografico-libreria, read a long and elaborate paper, in which he described the organization of the Institute Internationale of Brussels, explained, with examples, the Dewey decimal classification, read the replies sent to the presiding board by the Association of Italian librarians who, although not present, had been invited to the conference, referred with regret to the absence of Signor Disiderio Chilovi, librarian of the National Library of Florence, and finally advised strongly against assent to the plan.

The day following, this report was made the subject of general discussion, in which Signors Miola, Bonanno, and Fumagalli opposed the proposition, Signor De Marchi and Prof. Petrocchi favored it, and Prof. Tozzetti recommended that the matter be given more thorough consideration. Upon request, M. Otlet spoke, as representing the Brussels Institute. The general discussion being closed, Sig. Fumagalli presented to the president, in the name of several delegates who had met previously, a resolution which, while extending a vote of appreciation to the Institute Internationale of Brussels, refused Italian co-operation in a universal catalog and disapproved of the Dewey system. He requested the conference to pronounce in favor of national bibliographies. This resolution was not accept-

ed by the president of the association, who, through Sig. Vallardi, replied that the question needed further consideration.

A second resolution was offered by Count Gnoli, which in a measure carried out the suggestion previously made by Prof. Tozzetti. It was approved by the majority, and ran as follows: "The bibliographical conference of Florence, while appreciating the action taken by the Institute Internationale of Brussels, reserves for more serious consideration the subject presented, and requests the Associazione Tipografico-libreria Italiana to appoint a committee of seven members which shall examine *de novo* the question proposed, in the interests of students, of librarians, and of publishers, and shall arrange for its consideration at a future meeting."

On Sept. 20 the executive committee of the Associazione Tipografico-libreria Italiana met in Milan under the presidency of Sig. Giuseppe Bocca, for the appointment of the committee provided for at the bibliographical conference, which should have charge of the further investigation of the subject of international bibliography and should arrange for a future conference on the matter. The committee was appointed as follows: Prof. Domenico Gnoli, librarian of the Victor Emmanuel Library of Rome; Luigi De Marchi, librarian of the University of Pavia; Giuseppe Fumagalli, librarian of the National Library of Milan; Emilio Motta, librarian of the Trevulzian Library of Milan; Ulrico Hoepli; Piero Barberi, and Prof. Filippo Salveraglio, librarian of the government library of Cremona.

THE AMERICAN LIBRARIES OF REV. THOMAS BRAY.

In the *American Historical Review* for October (2:59-75) Dr. Bernard C. Steiner has an interesting article on "Rev. Thomas Bray and his American libraries," in which he describes a long-forgotten episode in the library history of the United States. Thomas Bray (1656-1730) was a clergyman of the Church of England, who was appointed commissary of Maryland in 1696. He soon became interested in establishing "parochial libraries for Maryland, Virginia, and other of the foreign plantations," and published several tracts in the interest of his scheme. He wanted to establish "lending libraries" for the colonies. In one of his tracts he published a list of books suitable for such libraries, and in another a complete scheme for their classification. He collected money for the purchase of books to be sent to the colonies, and Governor Francis Nicholson, of Maryland, proposed to the assembly that a "portion of the public revenue" should be applied to the enlargement of the one sent to Annapolis. The assembly did not vote an appropriation, but on June 11, 1697, it passed a resolution of thanks for the books received. The legislature of South Carolina, Nov. 25, 1698, adopted similar resolutions.

In 1696 Bray came to Maryland, but remained for a short time only. Before coming

from England he had founded a society for carrying forward the work—now the well-known Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. By the end of 1699 he had been instrumental in sending £2400 worth of books to the colonies, from Boston to Charleston, forming some 30 libraries. In 1700 South Carolina passed an act for the government of their library by a board of nine commissioners appointed by the governor, and in 1712 a supplementary act regulating the lending of books, because "the unrestrained liberty hath already proved very prejudicial to the said library, several of the books being lost and others damaged."

The library at Annapolis was the largest of all; it contained 1095 volumes in 1704. The same year the assembly passed an "act for securing the parochial libraries of this province," and provided for a state commission. Nearly 30 parish libraries were thus established in Maryland.

As will be seen by this brief summary, Dr. Steiner has written a new chapter in the history of the public library movement in America. Because this first movement failed, it is none the less interesting.

American Library Association.

President: W: H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

Secretary: Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

Treasurer: G: W. Cole, 473 Jersey Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

A. L. A. STATISTICS.

THE following figures, compiled from the treasurer's books show the growth of the association, year by year, from its organization, Oct. 6, 1876, to Oct. 6, 1896:

YEAR.	Members' serial numbers.	Yearly growth.
1876.....	1-69	69
1877.....	70-122	53
1878.....	123-196	74
1879.....	197-381	185
1880.....	382-397	16
1881.....	398-413	16
1882.....	414-454	41
1883.....	455-470	16
1884.....	471-476	6
1885.....	477-513	37
1886.....	514-594	81
1887.....	595-700	106
1888.....	701-725	25
1889.....	726-771	46
1890.....	772-884	113
1891.....	885-939	55
1892.....	940-1083	144
1893.....	1084-1230	147
1894.....	1231-1315	85
1895.....	1316-1377	62
1896.....	1378-1545	168
Total		1545

During its existence the association has held 18 conferences. Since 1885 they have been held annually with increasing attendance and interest. The following figures are self-explanatory:

Place of meeting	Dates.	Registered attendance.
Philadelphia.....	Oct. 4-6, 1877....	103
New York, N. Y....	Sept. 4-6, 1877....	60
London, Eng.....	Oct., 1877.....	Internat'l.
Boston, Mass.....	June 30-July 2, 1879.....	102
Washington, D. C..	Feb. 9-12, 1881....	66
Cincinnati, Ohio..	May 24-27, 1882....	44
Buffalo, N. Y.....	Aug. 14-17, 1883....	72
Lake George, N. Y.	Sept. 8-11, 1885....	87
Milwaukee, Wis....	July 7-10, 1886....	130
Thousand Islands, N. Y.....	Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 1887.....	177
Catskill Mts., N. Y.	Sept. 25-28, 1888 (Informal)....	32
St. Louis, Mo.....	May 8-11, 1889....	105
Fabyan's (White Mts.), N. H.....	Sept. 9-13, 1890....	241
San Francisco, Cal.	Oct. 12-16, 1891....	80
Lakewood, N. J....	May 16-21, 1892....	260
Chicago, Ill.....	July 13-22, 1893....	311
Lake Placid, N. Y.	Sept. 17-22, 1894....	205
Denver, Col.....	Aug. 13-21, 1895....	147
Cleveland, Ohio...	Sept. 1-4, 1896....	369

ADDITIONS TO COMMITTEES, ETC

THE following additions have been made to committees and officers already named:

Co-operation committee: W: H. Tillinghast, Cambridge, Mass., chairman; James L. Whitney, Public Library, Boston, Mass.; G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me.; Miss A. G. Chandler, Lancaster, Mass.; Miss C. H. Garland, Public Library, Dover, N. H.

"The Dr. Wm. F. Poole Memorial Fund" committee is as follows: F: M. Crunden, St. Louis, Mo., chairman; J. N. Wing, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City; W: I. Fletcher, Amherst College, Amherst, Mass.; G: E. Wire, M.D., sec'y and treas., 1574 Judson ave., Evanston, Ill.

Assistant secretaries: F. Richmond Fletcher, Library Bureau, Boston, Mass.; T: L. Montgomery, Wagner Institute of Science, Phila., Pa.; Harriet B. Prescott, Columbia University, New York City; Erle H. Merriman, Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

R. P. HAYES, *Secretary.*

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE co-operation committee (W: H. Tillinghast, chairman) will be pleased to receive from members of the association information of new devices or improved methods and suggestions concerning subjects for co-operative action.

A. L. A. HANDBOOK, 1894.

A FEW copies of the 1894 handbook still remain in the possession of the secretary, and he will be glad to send them to any persons who may wish a copy and will send him word to that effect.

State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK, PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

THE commission has just issued its first biennial report for 1895-96 (88 p. O.), which is a most interesting review of the work accomplished since its organization under the act approved Nov. 5, 1894. During the two years since then seven meetings of the commission have been held, at which every one of the members were present; seven documents, explaining the library law and urging the establishment of libraries, have been issued and carefully distributed. These documents, which are given in full in this report, comprise, 1, a circular giving the text of the library law and explaining its effects and provisions; 2, certificate of town clerk to election of library trustees and application for state aid; 3, application of library trustees for state aid; 4, questions addressed to library trustees as to use and condition of the library; 5, suggestions to the librarian of a small library; 6, review of the result of the law in 1895, and appeal to citizens to take advantage of its provisions; 7, questions addressed to town authorities as to condition, administration, and use of library.

Since the appointment of the commission 59 towns have established libraries and received books from the state. Of these, 41 took action in March, 1895, and 18 in March, 1896. Two other towns voted the appropriation and elected trustees, but have not yet completed their arrangements, and it is probable that two or three other towns have voted to accept the act, but have not officially informed the commission of their action. A list of the towns to which books have been supplied by the state is given. The full text of the library law appears on the first page of the report. The tabulated statistics of Vermont libraries cover pages 26-38. They are arranged by counties and then alphabetically by towns, and the information includes name of library, date of establishment, librarian, no. v. in May, '96, state aid, annual tax annual dues, and facts as to endowment. There are 244 towns listed, of which 116 report libraries.

The remarks of the commissioners as to "selection and purchase of books" are interesting. In dealing with the applications of towns, special regard was had to the books already available, to the special industries or characteristics of the community and suggestions from the trustees were solicited. The result has been that in the 59 separate lists made up there were no duplicates, and the

books have varied in number from 90 to 147. Lists are given of the books supplied to three towns "that were practically without books." Almost half of the report (p. 47-84) is devoted to descriptions of "some of the larger libraries of Vermont," illustrated with many interesting views. A useful index is appended.

Throughout their work the commissioners, while endeavoring in every way to make the public fully acquainted with the library law and to foster and encourage genuine interest in library matters, have taken the utmost care not to encourage any town to take advantage of the act "simply to get a gift from the state," or to rely, upon a fictitious and momentary enthusiasm. The results are thus summarized: "All of the libraries aided by the state show unmistakable signs of a vigorous life and of continued and increasing prosperity and usefulness. The gift from the state has evidently been accepted in the spirit in which it was intended, and has had its legitimate effect. In almost every instance additions have been made from various sources. . . . On the whole, it is the belief of the commissioners that the effect of the library law has been most beneficial to the educational interests, in fact to all the material interests, of the state. The money expended has proved a good investment. Such at least is the testimony that comes from some of the smaller towns in which the libraries established have contributed wonderfully to the happiness, contentment, and intellectual quickening of the people."

WISCONSIN STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss. L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee.

State Library Associations.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

President: J. C. Rowell, Librarian University of California, Berkeley.

Secretary: A. M. Jellison, Librarian Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE October meeting of the association was held in the Public Library of Stockton, on Oct. 17. About 25 members left San Francisco at 6 p.m., Oct. 16, on the river steamer, arriving at Stockton the next morning, where they were met and most hospitably welcomed by Librarian Cloudsley. After a thorough inspection of the handsome granite and marble library building, carriages were provided, and various points of interest in the vicinity were visited. A bountiful lunch followed, which was thoroughly enjoyed. At two o'clock President Rowell called the session to order—there being about 150 present—and the following program was presented and listened to with close attention: Piano solo, valse chromatique, 5th, Godard, Miss Hattiemae Mann.

Address of welcome, Hon. H. N. Baggs.

Greeting from Stockton Library, W. F. Cloudsley.

Response to welcome and greeting, J. C. Rowell, president.

Address, O. B. Parkinson.

"Some elements of literature," E. I. Jones.

Vocal solo, "The day is done," Balfe, Miss Edith T. Eaves.

Greeting by and from Sacramento, Librarian Hancock, Sacramento.

"Free access to the books," Librarian Harbourn, Alameda.

"Specialization," Librarian Peterson, Oakland.

"Function of the public library," Librarian Clarke, San Francisco.

"Co-operation," Librarian Teggart, Palo Alto. Violin solo, "Spring's awakening," Bach, Mrs. Walter Williams.

"Place and proper character of fiction in public libraries," Librarian Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

"Use of public libraries by school-children," Miss J. S. Klink, San Francisco.

"History of the Stockton Library," F. W. Chapman.

Remarks, *ad libitum*.

Closing remarks by the president, Librarian Rowell, State University.

At five o'clock the meeting adjourned and the visiting members took their departure. The effect of these association meetings is felt in the stimulation of interest in library work, and the promotion of a feeling of cordiality among the librarians which must result in better work from all.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

Secretary: Herbert E. Ritchie, City Library, Denver.

Treasurer: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

A MEETING of the Colorado Library Association was held on Oct. 30, 10 persons being present. After the reading of the minutes of the last meeting it was voted to instruct the executive committee to revise the constitution and to prepare by-laws to submit to the next meeting, and also to consider the advisability of holding meetings at places other than Denver. Mr. Brauer, of the Coburn Library of Colorado College, invited the association to meet at that library, and on motion of Mr. Daniels, of Greeley, the association voted to meet there on Dec. 11.

The regular program consisted of an account by J. C. Dana of the Cleveland meeting of the A. L. A., a paper by C. R. Dudley on "Special library editions of popular books," and a statement by G. M. Lee of what other states are doing in the way of library commissions.

An election of officers was then held, with the following results: President, John Parsons, Denver Public Library; Vice-Presidents, H. G. A. Bauer, Colorado Springs; Joseph F. Daniels, Greeley; Charlotte A. Baker, Denver; Secretary, Herbert E. Ritchie, Denver; Treasurer, A. E. Whitaker, Boulder.

JOHN PARSONS, *Secretary*.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. K. Stetson, Public Library, New Haven.

Secretary: Miss M. A. Richardson, Public Library, New London.

Treasurer: Mrs. F. W. Robinson, Otis Library, Norwich.

THE fall meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held Oct. 27, in the large upper hall of the Bridgeport Public Library. Two interesting collections were on exhibition in the hall—one of photographs and autotypes from old masters and modern painters, architectural subjects and casts loaned by Witter & Co., of New York, and the Prang Educational Company, of Boston, the other illustrating a lecture on the oyster industry to be given in a few weeks. Mr. Hills, the superintendent of the library, makes a point of having several lectures every year in the library building on the industries of Bridgeport.

The meeting, after having been called to order by the president, W. K. Stetson, of the New Haven Public Library, was welcomed by Frederick Hurd, president of the board of directors of the Bridgeport Public Library, who congratulated the association on the increasing number of public libraries in Connecticut, and referred to the knowledge of authorities and references expected of the modern librarian, and the judgment and tact by which he may raise the reading standard of a community.

Mr. Hurd at the close of his address invited the association, on behalf of the Bridgeport Public Library, to luncheon at the Atlantic Hotel. Mr. Stetson, in his reply, referred to the remarkable helpfulness of the Bridgeport Library to all classes of readers.

After the reports of the secretary and treasurer had been read, and a vote taken to pay the travelling expenses of the treasurer, a meeting of all the New England library associations in Hartford in February was decided upon and referred to the executive committee with additions from the libraries in Hartford.

Miss Cornelia Wetmore Chapell, of New London, made a brief report of the summer meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club in Northampton, and Mr. W. J. James, of Wesleyan University Library, described the conference of the American Library Association in Cleveland in September. He was followed by Miss Mary Francis, of Hartford, who read a paper on the post-conference trip, which was interestingly illustrated by photographs.

In the absence of Mr. Borden, of the New Haven Young Men's Institute, who was to have spoken on "The literature of domestic architecture," Mr. Witter, editor of *Art Education*, read extracts from one of his own papers, and also one by William Ordway Partridge on the importance of surrounding children from their earliest years with reproductions of the best pictures and statues. "Place before them," he said, "only what is noble, lovely, and inspiring."

The first paper in the afternoon session was by the Rev. A. T. Perry, of the Newton Case

Memorial Library, on "The invention of printing—what is it?"

Mrs. Agnes Hills, librarian of the Bridgeport Public Library, gave some impressions from libraries in Belgium, Germany, France, and England, describing minutely the municipal libraries of Paris, of which there are more than 60 all over the city, as near workingmen's homes as wine-shops, managed by people in touch with the neighborhood, and circulating music and single sheets of designs from books useful in arts and trades. Mrs. Hills found a most friendly and courteous spirit both in these and the London free libraries, one of which keeps an employment bureau.

Miss Angeline Scott, of the South Norwalk Free Library, spoke of the relation of libraries to patriotic societies, suggesting that members of these societies could often be induced to collect and classify material bearing on local history, if librarians would provide a place for it and supervise or suggest methods of work.

After a vote of thanks to the Bridgeport Public Library, the meeting adjourned.—*Hartford Courant.*

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Thomas Nelson, Public Library, East St. Louis, Ill.

Secretary: Miss E. L. Moore, Withers Public Library, Bloomington.

Treasurer: P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

THE second meeting of the Illinois State Library Association will be held at Armour Institute, Chicago, Nov. 27, 1896. The subjects of importance for discussion at the meeting are "The Illinois state library law," "The proposed Illinois library commission," and "The bureau of information." There will be a social meeting in the evening.

By order of the executive board,
EVVA L. MOORE, *Secretary.*

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Rollin A. Kautz, Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago, Ill.

IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.

President: J. W. Rich, State University Library, Iowa City.

Secretary: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Secretary: Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Herbert Putnam, Public Library Boston.

Secretary: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

Treasurer: Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

Treasurer: Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. W. Bailey, Nashua.

Corresponding Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Librarian and Treasurer: Miss A. M. Colby, Public Library, Concord.

A FALL meeting of the New Hampshire Library Association was held in Hanover, N. H., Oct. 27, in Bartlett Hall, at 3 p.m. It merited the attendance of every librarian in the state. The program was as follows:

1. The school and the library: Discussion, opened by Channing Folsom, superintendent of schools at Dover.

2. The best recent books for general readers: Science, Prof. William Patten; History, Prof. H. D. Foster; Political science, Prof. J. F. Colby; Educational literature, Fred Gowing, state superintendent of public instruction; General literature, including fiction, Prof. C. F. Richardson. It was carried out with a few variations.

President Tucker, of Dartmouth, in welcoming the association, said if he were asked to name the institution which had made the greatest progress within the last decade he should name the library; prior to that, the laboratory.

The papers and remarks by the professors and Mr. Gowing, each recommending the best books in his department, were most interesting and valuable. Their lists went down in many a note-book. Prof. Patten spoke on biology instead of on science in general, and Prof. Richardson's talk was on "Waste use of reading-rooms," and not on books in general literature.

The discussion relative to school and library was well opened by Mr. Folsom, who urged that if work is to be done between the two the initiative must be taken by the librarian.

In the evening Dr. and Mrs. Tucker tendered the association an informal but delightful reception, where the visiting librarians had the pleasure of meeting the faculty of Dartmouth and their wives.

The next morning before train time was spent in seeing the places of interest in Hanover, notably the Rollins chapel, where prayers were attended with the students, and the library, the new Butterfield (scientific) building, the old chapel, the church, and the Hitchcock Hospital were visited.

Mr. Bisbee, professor of bibliography and college librarian, had made admirable and cordial arrangements for the meeting, which the weather seconded. Mr. William C. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, gratified the executive committee by being present, and spoke a few words about the European trip and the publishing section of the A. L. A.

It was voted to accept the invitation of the trustees and librarian of the Manchester Public Library to hold the annual meeting in Manchester on the last Wednesday of January, 1897.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: John B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.

Secretary: Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

THE 7th annual meeting of the New Jersey Library Association was held at Bayonne on Wednesday, Oct. 28.

Mr. Alfred C. Herzog gave an account of the meeting of the A. L. A. at Cleveland.

Miss Winsor then read a paper upon "Libraries and music," in which she advocated the placing of scores, etc., in libraries whose constituents desired the same.

The subject elicited an earnest discussion, but the consensus of opinion was that it was not the province of the average free public library to spend its money on such expensive publications.

The discussion then turned to the subject of specializing in libraries generally. The opinion seemed to be that it is necessary to do this to a certain extent, but that it should be done with care and prudence and not be carried too far.

Mr. Hill, of Newark, deprecated turning the library into a kindergarten, and thought that libraries were catering too much to the nursery idea.

The bill to establish a library commission not having become a law, a committee was appointed to endeavor to secure the enactment of it during the coming session of the legislature. The members of the committee are as follows: Chairman, Morris C. Stratton, Salem; Ernest C. Richardson, Princeton University; George F. Winchester, Paterson; John B. Thompson, Trenton; Beatrice Winsor, Newark.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, John B. Thompson, Trenton; Vice-presidents: Esther E. Burdick, Jersey City; W. E. Kimball, Passaic; Treasurer, Emma L. Adams, Plainfield; Secretary, Beatrice Winsor, Newark. It was decided to hold an all-day meeting some time during the winter in some place not hitherto visited, as missionary work is the object of the association.

BEATRICE WINSOR, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. N. Larned, Buffalo Library, Buffalo.

Secretary: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: D. A. Campbell, State Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Mary Jones, State University, Lincoln.

Treasurer: Miss Carrie C. Dennis, Public Library, Lincoln.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.

Secretary: Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton.

Treasurer: C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

AT the annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association, in Cleveland, Sept. 4, the following resolutions were adopted in memory of the three members—R. C. Woodward, Miss Emma Wright, and Mrs. Julia Beyerley—who had died during the year:

Whereas, Since our last meeting death has removed three of the charter members of the Ohio Library Association, therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Robert C. Woodward, late librarian of the Warder Library, of Springfield, the association has suffered the loss of an honored and useful member; that the years of faithful service which he gave to his chosen field of labor and its result in the complete system of classification and indexing which he worked out for himself are recognized and appreciated.

Resolved, That in the death of Miss Emma Wright, late librarian of Kenyon College, Gambier, we have been deprived of the cordial support of one who had large hope for and sympathetic interest in this association and its purposes.

Resolved, That in the death of Mrs. Julia Beyerley, of Portsmouth, we suffer the loss of a member who, though not engaged in actual library work, was a firm believer in advanced library methods and thoroughly in accord with the aims of this association.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the association and that a copy be sent the families of each of the deceased members.

C. R. OLIN,
NANA A. NEWTON,
LINDA A. EASTMAN.

ALICE BOARDMAN, *Secretary*.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Jos. G. Rosengarten, Free Library, Philadelphia.

Secretary: C. S. Kates, Free Library, Philadelphia.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. A. Resag, Institute Free Library, Wilmington, Del.

THE first meeting for the winter of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the library of the Philadelphia City Institute on Monday, Nov. 9. There was a large gathering of the members and a very interesting evening was passed. The president of the Institute was unable to be present as a guest, but sent a cordial letter of welcome.

The chair was taken by Mr. Joseph G. Rosengarten, the president of the club, and after formal business, Mr. Luther Hewitt, librarian of the Law Association of Philadelphia, brought forward the subject of an application made to him by Mr. Ames for assistance and co-operation in the "Comprehensive index." After describing the value of Mr. Ben Perley Poore's

Index and the supplement published by Mr. Ames, Mr. Hewitt directed attention to the great gap between these two works, and the general sentiment was that any help that the club could give was due to the completion of this valuable work. In the end a committee of five persons was appointed, Mr. Hewitt, Mr. John Thomson, Mr. T. L. Montgomery, Mr. Kates, and Mr. Blodget, to give such assistance as would be possible.

Mr. Montgomery then gave a *résumé* of the proceedings of the recent American Library Association conference at Cleveland.

Mr. Henry J. Carr, of Scranton, followed with a description of the Cleveland Public Library system as worked in that library and in the Free Library of Philadelphia. He eulogized the work of both. How strong the feeling in favor of the open-shelf system has grown to be among librarians was clearly shown by the division upon the subject taken at the A. L. A. conference. Of course in Philadelphia, where the system has proved so great a success, it would be difficult to find anything but approval of the system, which owes so much to Mr. Brett's advocacy and good example.

Mr. John Thomson then gave an account of the building just completed for the congressional library at Washington, and by the kindness of Mr. Green was able to hand round many of the blue prints, which so much interested the meeting at Cleveland. The general sentiment seemed to be that in any future large free library building it would be difficult, if not impossible, to design a better scheme for the development of the work of the library than Mr. Green had so happily carried out in the building under his professional charge. The idea of working from a centre and letting work radiate to all points was a happy one, and a hope was expressed that in the plans of the proposed new library of Philadelphia the great lessons to be learned from the congressional library plans would be attended to, so that a building large, handsome, and well appointed, and at the same time worthy of so large a city as Philadelphia, might be erected.

The next meeting of the club will be held on Dec. 7, 1896.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

Secretary-Treasurer: W. R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

THE Western Pennsylvania Library Club held its first regular meeting at the Carnegie Library, of Pittsburgh, on the evening of Nov. 11. Twenty-three members were elected, making a total membership of 32, and it is hoped that there will be many more in the surrounding towns who will join the club at its next meeting.

The time was largely occupied in maturing the future plans of the club. It is proposed to have one meeting each year devoted specially to the public, and, if possible, some librarian of note will be engaged to deliver an address. Probably the last meeting of the year will be

devoted to library legislation in Pennsylvania. It is the aim of the club to have the meetings very informal, with short papers and much discussion, and with the usual question-box. Many pertinent subjects were suggested for consideration during the year, such as the value of rare books to public libraries, home libraries, travelling libraries, library legislation, etc.

The next meeting will be held at the Carnegie Library, Allegheny, Thursday, Jan. 14. The members of the club will receive notice of the program of the meeting.

W. R. WATSON, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

A LARGELY attended section meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, in the interests of the public, travelling, and school libraries of northern Wisconsin, was held at Ashland, Wis., at the Vaughn Library, on Nov. 13-14, 1896.

The meeting was opened with an address of welcome by Dr. E. S. Ellis, president of the board of trustees of the Vaughn Library. President Hutchins responded on behalf of the association. This was followed with a paper by Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, on the "Responsibility of the library trustees to the public," in which pleas were made for: 1, Personal visits of trustees to libraries; 2, Study of library methods; 3, Knowledge of the best books. Mrs. Vaughn also made a strong plea for the employment of trained librarians, and paid a high tribute to the efficiency of the present librarian, Miss Janet Green, a graduate of the Armour Institute of Technology.

R. G. Thwaites, secretary of the State Historical Society, then spoke on the importance of gathering local history for the benefit of future historians.

"The relation of the club to libraries" was the subject of a paper by Mrs. Geo. F. Merrill, president Ladies' Monday Club, of Ashland. Mrs. Merrill stated that the growth and influence of libraries had kept pace with the club movement and *vice versa*. The club, as we know it to-day, is the product of the last 25 years, and it is to the same period that libraries owe their marvellous growth. In many instances the club is directly responsible for the organization of a free public library. The federations of many states are taking up the establishment of libraries as their chief work. Last winter the Iowa State Federation appointed a committee to aid in this work. Ohio and Illinois are taking steps in the same direction, and the furtherance of the library movement will undoubtedly be one of the chief objects of the newly-organized federation of Wisconsin.

Miss Angie Neff, librarian of the Duluth (Minn.) Public Library, then gave her impressions of the American Library Association Conference of 1896. Miss Neff spoke of the inspiration which came from meeting and conversing with others of the craft. A brief résumé was given of the work accomplished, and the librarians were urged to attend future sessions of the A. L. A.

In the absence of Miss Maude A. Earley, librarian of the Chippewa Falls Public Library, the secretary read her report on the Summer School of Library Science.

Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Milwaukee Public Library, then made a talk on "Advertising a library," illustrated by the samples which were exhibited at the Cleveland meeting.

A question-box was the next order of business. It elicited many valuable suggestions in matters pertaining to library economy.

On Saturday morning Mr. Hutchins, chairman of the library commission, spoke most entertainingly on the subject of travelling libraries. One of the Stout travelling libraries was exhibited and photographs were shown of the localities to which the libraries are sent. Mr. Hutchins also spoke of the free travelling libraries now being established in Wood county by Mr. J. D. Witter, of Grand Rapids, Wis., on a slightly different plan from those of Dunn county, it being Mr. Witter's idea to make a travelling library a nucleus for a permanent public library, while Mr. Stout's plan is to send out books to communities in which it would be a literal impossibility to establish permanent libraries of any size, supported by taxation.

Mr. Stout thought it was a good plan to have the citizens of a locality purchase a bookcase in which to keep the books, as is done in Wood county, on the principle that what a man pays for he values. Mr. Stout also suggested that citizens contribute books to augment the small collections.

Rev. S. E. Lathrop, Ashland, Wis., then read a paper on the necessity of "Free libraries in a new country." Mr. Lathrop painted a vivid picture of the conditions which obtain in newly-settled districts, and also dwelt upon the necessity of supplying such communities with good literature at the earliest possible moment. During the past 26 years Mr. Lathrop has been instrumental in building up eight free public libraries. Within the past 16 years he has collected over 15,000 volumes from friends all over America, and has established libraries in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Oregon, and Wisconsin. Mr. Lathrop has also collected papers and magazines which he has distributed through the South; among the colored day schools; to the black and white convicts in the coal mines of Georgia and Tennessee; among the boatmen on the Ohio river, etc., etc. Coming to Wisconsin, four years ago, Mr. Lathrop continued the work, sending out contributed literature to the logging camps, farming communities, sailors on the lakes, etc.

A letter was read from a teacher of drawing in one of the normal schools of the state, who offered to start a system of travelling pictures

on a plan similar to that now in vogue in connection with that of Hull House, Chicago. The project met with much favor.

In the absence of Prof. J. H. Raymond, of the State University, R. G. Thwaites spoke on the subject of "Travelling libraries and university extension." Upon the completion of its new building the State Historical Society hopes to establish a system of travelling libraries in connection with the study clubs and university extension work in the state.

Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin, Wis., president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, then spoke on the deep interest felt by the members of the Federation in the matter of travelling libraries, as was evinced by the attendance of three of the members of the official board of the Federation. At the request of the secretary of the commission, Mrs. Morris has appointed a committee of seven members on co-operation with the library commission.

The secretary of the commission stated that the National Household Economic Association, at its recent meeting, passed resolutions pledging its support of the travelling library movement, and also appointed as delegate to the Ashland meeting Mrs. N. A. Gray, of Milwaukee.

Upon the conclusion of the discussion, Rev. Mr. Lathrop introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The Wisconsin Library Association, at its section meeting, held at the Vaughn Library, in Ashland, Nov. 13-14, 1896, has discussed with great interest the subject of free travelling libraries, and the plans for that work as already successfully begun by Senator Stout in Dunn county, and by Mr. J. D. Witter in Wood county; and,

Whereas, This association heartily approves of this plan of providing good reading for communities destitute of books; therefore

Resolved, That this association earnestly requests all the people of Antigo, Ashland, Bayfield, Hayward, Hurley, Ironwood, Phillips, Rhinelander, Superior, Washburn, and all other places in north Wisconsin, to contribute wholesome books, good magazines, pictures framed or unframed, and children's periodicals, to provide material for travelling libraries for the destitute communities of this region. Such contributions may be sent to the librarian of the Vaughn Library in Ashland, as the most central depository. Such contributions should be marked "For the free travelling libraries," and should also bear the name of the giver.

104 persons were in attendance at the Saturday afternoon session, which was wholly devoted to libraries and schools. Miss Mae Schreiber, whose work in connection with library reading in the Normal School of Milwaukee is attracting general attention, addressed the association on "The teacher and the library." Miss Schreiber urged the utmost co-operation between the librarian and the teacher. The paper was listened to with great interest and was voted one of the best of the conference.

Miss Schreiber's paper was followed by one on "School libraries," by H. W. Rood, Washburn, Wis. Mr. Rood showed many ways of obtaining school libraries and means of using them to the best advantage. When a delegate inquired as to the best methods of arousing the interest of boys in good books, Mr. Rood called on a young student of the Washburn schools, Master Roy Hull, who spoke most interestingly on ways of gaining the attention of boys and caus-

ing them to read good literature. W. Jones, of Washburn, then spoke on the "Public library and the public school." The discussion was led by C. M. Gleason, Rhinelander, Wis. Mr. Gleason's address was replete with bright suggestions for winning the interest and the sympathy of the young, and leading them from good books to the best. President I. C. McNeill, of the Superior (Wis.) Normal School, showed how a casual suggestion made to a student would oftentimes lead to a course of study pursued with interest for many months.

The social features of the Ashland meeting were of special prominence. Mrs. E. E. Vaughn tendered the delegates, friends, and townspeople a reception at her beautiful residence on Friday evening. Over 250 persons were in attendance.

The visiting delegates were met at the depots and were delightfully entertained as guests in the homes of the members of the Ladies' Monday Club, a literary organization of Ashland.

Before adjournment, President Hutchins, on behalf of the visitors, thanked Mrs. Vaughn and the members of the Monday Club for their kindly and gracious hospitality.

L. E. STEARNS, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN WISCONSIN FREE TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

IMMEDIATELY upon the adjournment of the section meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, a meeting was held for the purpose of forming a Northern Wisconsin Free Travelling Library Association. The meeting was called to order by the Rev. S. E. Lathrop. Mr. M. Barry, Phillips, Wis., was chosen temporary chairman, and Miss Janet M. Green, of Ashland, acted as secretary. After remarks by Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Senator Stout, and Messrs. Hutchins and Thwaites, the following constitution was adopted:

CONSTITUTION.

I. This society shall be known as the Northern Wisconsin Free Travelling Library Association, auxiliary to the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. Its headquarters shall be at the Vaughn Library, in Ashland.

II. Its objects shall be as follows: (1) to solicit money; (2) to collect good books, magazines, framed and unframed pictures; (3) to assort and arrange this material into free travelling libraries for those communities of northern Wisconsin which have no such libraries; (4) to have general oversight and management of the circulation of such free travelling libraries; and (5) to aid and encourage these communities in the establishment of permanent libraries of their own.

III. The officers shall consist of a president, vice-presidents, secretary, librarian, and treasurer, who shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such offices. These officers shall be elected annually and shall compose an executive committee for the general management of affairs.

IV. Any person may become a member by paying \$1 in cash, or the equivalent in books, each year.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland, Wis.; Vice-presidents, Rev. S. E. Lathrop, Ashland; R. Inglis, Bayfield; H. W. Rood, Washburn; C. M. Gleason, Rhinelander; R. L. McCormick, Hayward; I. C. McNeill, West Superior; Librarian and treasurer, Miss Janet M. Green, Ashland.

JANET M. GREEN, *Secretary*.

Library Clubs.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

Secretary: Miss May L. Bennett, 1888 Sheridan Road, Evanston.

Treasurer: W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

THE Chicago Library Club opened the season of 1896-97 very auspiciously by a meeting held Wednesday evening, October 7, in the library of the Art Institute, about 70 persons being present. The members were cordially received by the librarian, Miss Forrester, and enjoyed the opportunity of viewing some of the paintings and valuable art-books in the Institute before the meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. Anderson H. Hopkins.

In his address Mr. Hopkins emphasized the fact that the club was not organized for pleasure or social intercourse alone, but should each year aim to accomplish some work of permanent value. To this end he urged the club to undertake the preparation of a union list of periodicals in the libraries of Chicago and vicinity, or do some other much-needed bibliographical work.

After the routine business of the club the members had the pleasure of listening to a very suggestive paper on "The librarian, assistants, and the public," by Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Milwaukee Public Library (see p. 489).

Miss Lodilla Ambrose then gave a pleasant account of the conference of the American Library Association at Cleveland, which was supplemented by a short talk by Dr. G. E. Wire, in which he compared this conference with those of former years, giving points of difference.

MAY L. BENNETT, *Secretary*.

THE executive committee of the Chicago Library Club, in organizing the work of the year, adopted an interesting method of obtaining from the members expressions of opinion as to means of making the club interesting and profitable to as large a number as possible. They sent to all members a circular letter, asking them to reply frankly to the following questions and send their answers to the secretary before October 1:

1. What shall be the character of the meetings of the year? What special topics do you wish discussed before the members of the club?
2. Do you deem it desirable for the club to undertake some work of permanent value, such as the compilation and publication of (a) a local bibliography, or (b) a list of special collections in the libraries of Chicago and vicinity, or (c) a union list of periodicals?
3. If so, which of the three lines suggested, or what other line, would you favor?
4. Can anything be done by the club in the line of library extension? If so, what?

From the answers received a general view of the opinions of the members of the club was obtainable, and it was possible to arrange for the season's program on more definite lines, and at the same time take into account the

preferences of the majority. Many members who would offer no individual suggestions at the meeting would respond to a circular of this sort, which proved to be a successful innovation in opening the club's season of work.

MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going — and so good-day!"

THE Milwaukee Library Round Table held a meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 6 p.m. A luncheon was served in honor of Dr. G. W. Peckham, preceded by a paper by Miss Josephine Kulzick on the Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris. The reading of the paper was followed by answers to the queries on library economy, which had accumulated in the question-box. On Saturday evening, Oct. 31, the members of the Round Table were the guests of an honorary member, Mrs. John Goadby Gregory, of Milwaukee. The weird ceremonies pertaining to Hallowe'en were the order of the evening.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Secretary: Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

Treasurer: Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

THE first meeting of the New York Library Club was held at Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, Nov. '12. Despite the threatening weather, regular library club weather, there was an attendance of about 100.

A letter was read from Dr. J. S. Billings expressing his desire to become a member of the club, and extending an invitation to the club to meet at the Astor Library at some future time.

A communication from Mr. Tillinghast, of the Massachusetts Library Club, was next considered. Mr. Tillinghast wrote urging the New York club to undertake the preparation of the monthly lists of select fiction that the Massachusetts club published last year. The Publishing Section of the A. L. A. has promised to publish the lists, if provided with the necessary copy. Mr. Tillinghast suggested that *The Publishers' Weekly* might allow the use of books sent to it to be reviewed. Miss Haines, in answer to questions, gave a more detailed account of the *modus operandi* of the committee of the Massachusetts club. Miss Hall, of the Union for Christian Work, and Mr. Stetson, of the New Haven Library, testified to the value of the lists. Mr. Eastman, of the N. Y. State Library, said that in preparing the A. L. A. supplement they had found the Massachusetts lists most valuable, and that the state library would be glad to co operate in continuing the publication. Ten members of the club expressed their willingness to read and pass upon two books a month. Upon motion of Mr. Baker, of Columbia University Library, a committee of three was appointed by the chair (Misses Hitchler, Haines, and Winsor) to confer with the Massachusetts club and state association.

Upon motion of Mr. Nelson, a committee was appointed to consult with the state association about the annual dinner.

Mr. Bostwick, of the N. Y. Free Circulating Library, moved to amend the constitution by striking out the word "February" in clause 6 of the constitution, the object being to omit the February meeting of the club. There are now three consecutive monthly meetings, and the February meeting, coming as it does so soon after the joint meeting in January, is apt to be poorly attended and of little interest. In the discussion that followed, Mr. Berry, of the Y. M. C. A. Library, Brooklyn, said that the club was too late in getting to work, and suggested that the first meeting be held in October. A motion was carried to refer to the executive committee the matter of omitting the February meeting and holding instead a meeting in October.

Miss Baldwin, of the Bryson Library, called attention to the need of a reception committee to meet and welcome strangers at the meetings of the club and at the annual dinner. A motion was carried for the appointment, by the chair, of such a committee to serve for one year. The president appointed Miss Baldwin; Mr. Peoples, of the Mercantile Library; Miss Trowbridge, of the Lenox; Miss Davis, of Pratt Institute; Miss Prescott, of Columbia; Mr. Stetson, of the New Haven Library; and Mr. W. J. C. Berry, of the Bar Association Library.

Next followed the regular program. Mr. Nelson gave a report on the A. L. A. Conference at Cleveland. He prefaced his report of the meeting by some amusing extracts from Cleveland papers, complimenting the members of the association on being remarkably "fine looking and well dressed." Extracts from Mr. Dana's opening address and Mr. Larned's indictment of the newspaper press were enjoyed alike by those who had heard the addresses and those to whom they were new.

Miss Haines read an account of the Post-Conference excursion that gave those unfortunates who did not take the trip a most vivid impression of what they had missed. All were grateful to her, however, for enabling them to enjoy the tale of the Minneapolis frog and the St. Paul frog, the Fort Mackinaw oubliette, and the story of Robinson's Folly.

As so much time had been taken up by business, it was necessary to postpone the third subject on the program, "What should librarians read?" until some future meeting.

The following persons were elected members of the club: Miss Fanny P. Brainard, Union for Christian Work Library, Brooklyn; Miss Mary L. Davis, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn; Miss Helen R. Gay, Mt. Vernon (N. Y.) Public Library; Miss T. L. Kelso, with Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City; Dr. J. S. Billings, New York Public Library; Miss Mary K. Jobs, Plainfield (N. J.) Public Library; Mrs. Cornelia H. Cary, 33 Pierrepont street, Brooklyn; Miss Mary E. Fannon, Newark, N. J.; Mr. T. E. Comba, of Truslove & Comba, New York City.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE, *Secretary*,

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: Dr. Cyrus Adler, Smithsonian Institution.

Secretary and Treasurer: F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE Washington Library Association held its first meeting for the season of 1896-97 on Wednesday evening, Oct. 28, Dr. Cyrus Adler, the president, in the chair. The attendance numbered 23.

Mr. A. R. Spofford, librarian of congress, presented an address on Dr. Joseph M. Toner, a recently deceased member of the association. Although not an active member, the pursuits to which he gave himself more and more assiduously, voluntarily curtailing a large and successful medical practice to devote himself to them, as a book-collector, an author and editor, a fosterer of scientific, historical, and bibliographical research, especially in the lines of medical biography, local history, and Washingtoniana, were in touch with the association's object. His magnificent collection of biographical notices, obituaries, etc., with portraits, in the form principally of mounted extracts, of more than 4000 American physicians, was a labor of love to him from the beginning of his career. Although the complete medico-biographical dictionary which he hoped to compile was relinquished three years before his death, yet his "Necrological notices of deceased surgeons in the rebellion" (Washington, 1870), his "Medical men of the Revolution" (Philadelphia, 1876), and other compilations in special fields, were prepared from this mass of material. His "Dictionary of elevations" (N. Y., 1874) was the forerunner of the works on that subject that have since appeared. In the last six years of his life he devoted himself so assiduously to the collection of Washingtoniana, that his library contains, to speak of only one item, a copy of every letter written by Washington, enriched with the most exact and minute annotations and corrections of editions already in print. Three different journals of George Washington were published with Dr. Toner's valuable notes.

Dr. Toner's attainments, combined with a large and genial personality, characterized by tenacity of opinion and excitability of temperament, gave him prominence in medical and scientific assemblages and concerns, and gained him the good-will of his associates. Not to enumerate his honors, but his beneficences, and passing by his life-long service on boards of local philanthropic and charitable institutions, the Toner medals, given for proficiency in physical science at Georgetown University and at Jefferson Medical College, the Toner lectures, endowed by him to disseminate knowledge of new discoveries in medical science, and published by the Smithsonian Institution, and above all, the donation in 1882 of his collections, numbering at that time 26,000 volumes and 20,000 pamphlets, with curios, and including the medico-biographical material above mentioned, to the Library of Congress, for the use of the nation, adding to this collection till his

death—these attest his devotion to the diffusion of learning among mankind.

Dr. Adler added a personal recollection of Dr. Toner, and then introduced the second part of the program by calling on Mr. H. L. Prince, librarian of the Patent Office, to give some account of the recent meeting of the American Library Association at Cleveland. Mr. Wm. S. Burns, of the Office of Documents, gave some interesting details of the conference, and was followed by Mr. F. A. Crandall, superintendent of documents, Miss E. E. Clarke, of the Office of documents, and by Dr. Adler, on this topic. The meeting then adjourned.

EDITH E. CLARKE, *Secretary pro tem.*

Library Schools and Training Classes.

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS.

THE following students are enrolled in the class of 1896-97:

May Bailey, Munhall, Pa.
Mary E. Bechtel, Philadelphia.
Julia W. Blandy, New York City.
Florence M. Cook, Montville, N. J.
Florence M. Ellbeck, Philadelphia.
Aida T. Evans, Malvern, Pa.
Anna M. Forsyth, Ann Arbor, Mich.
Laura E. Hanson, Merion, Pa.
Lucia T. Henderson, Jamestown, N. Y.
Lucy W. Mitchell, Philadelphia.
Harriet A. Mumford, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Susan W. Randall, Philadelphia.
Charles D. Robinson, Mooresburg, Pa.
Anna L. Thurston, Pittsburg, Pa.
Mary H. Upton, Salem, Mass.
Lydia Weston, Burlington, N. J.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

THE members of the second-year library class give two days each week to the Lenox Library, where they receive instruction in the cataloging of incunabula, etc., from Signor I. Achilli. The lectures on bookbinding, given to the school on Nov. 20 and 27, by Miss Evelyn H. Nordhoff, will be supplemented by two process-lectures at Miss Nordhoff's studio for the second-year class.

The address of the director to the incoming class of 1896-97 is given in the *Pratt Institute Monthly* for November; it is a lucid and interesting presentation of the several phases of library work.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

AN important change of policy made in June, 1896, goes into effect this year. Hereafter, the completion of junior work will not necessarily admit to the senior class. Classwork, examinations, and those personal qualifications which make or mar success will be weighed, and only those who seem likely to render important service in the library profession will be admitted to the senior class.

The work of the year is going on smoothly. For practical work in the methods of small libraries both classes are engaged in reorganizing the Railroad Men's Library of Albany.

The following table is interesting as pointing to the better quality of library work which must inevitably follow the more thorough general education of library students:

	Size of class.	No. holding college degree.	No. having at least one year of college work.	High-school graduates.
Class '88....	22	6	3	13
Class '89....	22	6	5	11
Class '90....	23	6	4	13
Class '91....	14	4	3	7
Class '92....	19	6	2	11
Class '93....	23	5	5	13
Class '94....	15	7	2	6
Class '95....	21	9	3	9
Class '96....	19	5	7	7
Class '97....	21	13	2	6
Class '98....	18	11	5	2
Total	217	78	41	98

I would like to commend to LIBRARY JOURNAL readers, as I have done to the school students, an article by President Hyde, of Bowdoin College, in the October *Educational Review*. It is called "The social mission of the public school." As the justification for education by the state (which may include the library as well as the school) he presents a new and inspiring "social ideal."

MARY S. CUTLER.

Reviews.

EICHLER, Dr. Ferdinand. Begriff und aufgabe der bibliothekswissenschaft: vortrag gehalten im Oesterreichischen Verein für bibliothekswesen in Wien am 30 Mai, 1896. Leipzig, Otto Harrassowitz, 1896. 32 p. O.

The author is amanuensis in the royal University Library in Graz, Austria. He first gives a learned dissertation on all that should be included under the head of library science, and reviews briefly the different works that have dealt with the subject in Germany and England especially, giving full bibliographical titles of all the books referred to in copious foot-notes. He thinks the standard of knowledge for librarians should be made much higher and should include a thorough acquaintance with the history of books and bookmaking, or manuscripts and printed works. This standard he claims can only be attained and made practical if the working forces of a library are properly classified into scientific librarians and practical librarians, to which latter should be entrusted all the manipulation of the books of a given library. In Italy this division of labor is already recognized, and Prussia also has begun to give proper attention to the equipping of librarians for the strictly bibliographical work of libraries. He holds that only a well-planned system of education, with the distinct aim of fit-

ting the learner for certain duties, will ever make practical for all libraries what the very few are now struggling so hard, and often so ineffectually, to attain.

HAIGHT, W. R. Canadian catalogue of books:

Part I. Toronto, Haight & Co., 1896. 130 p. O.

This publication is notable as marking the first systematic attempt to do for Canadian trade bibliography what the English and American Catalogues have done for trade bibliography in Great Britain and the United States. It is the first of a series of parts, in which it is planned to record as fully as possible all the books or pamphlets published in the Dominion "from the first printed book in 1767 to the end of 1895, and from this date to issue annual lists for each year, beginning with 1896." This method of publication will necessarily result in a number of separate catalogs covering almost the same period, and making prompt consultation difficult, but the only other alternative would be the indefinite postponement of the work until all the available material for the bibliography of the century would be at hand—and that would be a long waiting.

Part I of the catalog is an octavo volume of 130 pages, in which are recorded 1006 titles of books or pamphlets published from 1791 till 1895. The arrangement is in three divisions: a main author list, a title index, and a chronological index; but the catalog is sadly deficient in bibliographical details and decidedly primitive in its construction. In the author list the style is similar to that of Sabin's *Bibliotheca Americana*, save that the author's surname only is given in the heading. Titles are fully given, as are imprint data and information as to introductions, appendixes, illustrations, etc. There are frequent descriptive or bibliographical annotations, many of which could have been better compressed into the imprint data. In the case of anonymous works or publications of towns, provinces, societies, etc., entry is made under the first word of the title only; thus "Description of the surveyed townships . . . of Quebec" appears only under "Description," and nowhere under Quebec; nor are there any cross-references. Mr. Haight has adopted an original system for denoting book sizes, "as the various sizes could hardly be classed under any existing scale at present in use." To this a prefatory key is furnished; the method is undoubtedly closely exact, but it necessitates constant reference to the explanatory table. Whenever practicable current prices are quoted, as given in Canadian lists and the publisher's catalog from which the record is made is noted in abbreviated form. The title index covers 16 single-column pages, and refers to the first word of the author entry. Unfortunately, the great majority of titles are lost to the world by being buried under the prefixes A, An, or The—there are three and a half pages of "The's." The chronological index lists the publications by year of issue, referring to the main entry in the author list. This is interesting, as it shows

at once how many publications of a given year are included in the work. In the present volume 1791, 1800, and 1806 are each represented by a single title, and it is not until 1829 that there is a continuous chronological record. 1894 is represented by 17 publications, 1895 by four, and there are 43 titles without dates. It will be seen that the work as it now stands is far from being a complete catalog of Canadian books; indeed this is disclaimed in the preface. It is, however, a beginning toward a Canadian trade bibliography, and as such merits encouragement. It is to be hoped that in later volumes the crudities and technical failings in this first part may be remedied.

LANGLOIS, Ch. V. Manuel de bibliographie historique. I.: Instruments bibliographiques. Paris, Hachette et Cie., 1896. xi+195 p. S.

This book is the first instalment of the author's instructions to students of the "Faculté des lettres" of Paris upon bibliography in its application to history and its allied subjects. He divides his work into two books.

Book 1 treats of general bibliography, and gives lists of all the best bibliographies of bibliography, universal bibliographies, and national bibliographies. As each work is mentioned a concise estimate of its value is given. We are thus in the brief space of some 60 pages given a conspectus of all the really important works that fall under the classes named.

Book 2 treats of historical bibliography. The first chapter is devoted to the original sources of history, which are to be found in archives and literary documents that have never been printed and in collections of works printed for the first time directly from these documents. The rest of the work is taken up with the enumeration of bibliographies which relate especially to history, which are divided by the author into two classes: first, those which are retrospective in character or which deal with books already printed upon the subject; second, with its current or periodical bibliography.

The student of general or of historical bibliography will find in this little volume a great deal of carefully arranged and digested matter, which is rendered very available by the use of its excellent index.

The author is quite familiar with American and English bibliographies, and refers to many of them. He does not attach great value to the lists of "Best books," which are so often put upon our markets. Sonnenschein's work he considers the best of its class. Charles Kendall Adams's "Manual of historical literature" and Larned's "History for ready reference" come in for qualified praise.

In its last chapter this work opens up the whole question of bibliography and the compilation of this class of works. All bibliographies are necessarily incomplete unless covering a definite period of time. Besides they have become so numerous that we cannot readily find them all, many being hidden away in books or periodicals. Of late it has become the fashion for authors to append to their books lists of the

works they have consulted, which they attempt to dignify by calling them bibliographies.

Most of these lists are utterly worthless to the student of the subject and have but little merit as bibliographies. Even the bibliographies of bibliography are not what they should be. We need a good guide to such bibliographies as we have, but what we need most of all are more and better bibliographies. The author considers that at the present time nothing is more urgent than the preparation of national bibliographies of every species made in each country and for that country.

He shows most aptly, in concluding his subject, that the time has come when individual effort in this line has ceased to produce any great or important results. Co-operative effort even, it is feared, is destined, like that of individuals, to fail, for the reason that bodies of persons interested in certain subjects have their day and then disappear, leaving no successors, imbued with their enthusiasm, to carry on the work which they have begun. This is one of the strongest arguments for the recording of literature by the government and not by individual effort.

There are two other questions which need consideration. We need more critical bibliographies. It does not avail, as our author says, to be informed that there are 20 books on a given subject if no indication is given of which of the 20 are the best. The reader is condemned to make his own selection and perhaps decides to read the most worthless books of the lot. With bibliographies which give us all the works on a subject accompanied with critical estimates as to their value we shall be told *what* exists; but with this question there is a second to which but slight attention has hitherto been given by bibliographers, viz.: *where* can the works themselves be found. They have been at great pains to get up an elaborate *menu* and print it in the most sumptuous manner, but have forgotten to provide the substance for which the *menu* calls. We read, our mouths water, and we go empty away.

It may be said the literary worker can consult the printed catalogs of our largest libraries. True! but for some years past these have given up the practice of printing their catalogs, and so he is compelled to waste his time and effort in going from one library to another in search of such books as he desires to consult. While libraries are now better arranged and administered than formerly, it still remains a fact that the literary worker is compelled to put up with greater inconveniences than the workers in any other field. How can these obstacles be overcome? The answer is to be found largely if not wholly, as has already been suggested, in the government's recording its own literature. The Prussian government has come to the relief of literary workers in a plan which cannot but meet with universal admiration and approval. It has recently decided, so says our author, to print a collective catalog of the books in the Royal Library at Berlin and of those in the university libraries of that empire. This will

form the largest collective catalog which has ever been undertaken.

When this work is completed, when the catalog of the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris is printed, and when that of the British Museum is finished European scholars will be put in the way of knowing *what*, in the main, are the literary treasures of England and the continent and *where* they may be found. What work has America in hand which is at all commensurate with either of these? Of how much practical benefit will these works be to the American student? Knowing that a certain book is in Paris, London, or Berlin, can be of but little use to him, especially if he cannot cross the ocean to consult it.

The American scholar needs better means of finding where the literary treasures of our own country are stored, without being under the necessity of running hither and thither in search of them, and too often with unsatisfactory results. What we need is a collective catalog, similar to that planned by the Prussian government, comprehensive enough to include all the works in our largest libraries. Our government could set on foot no better plan to promote American scholarship and learning.

There is no better time than the present to agitate this matter. With our new national library building nearly ready for occupancy it is a fit time to broaden the work done by the government and to begin the recording of our national literature. Our public documents are now being cared for under the able supervision of F. A. Crandall, superintendent of documents, and we are assured that while current publications will be cataloged as fast as issued, the work for cataloging the old documents will be pushed as fast as practicable. What is being done for public documents, the Library of Congress should at an early day be doing for our literature in general. Another and perhaps the best reason why the national library is the most suitable place for carrying on this work is, because it is the depository of all copyrighted works and is hence the largest store-house of that very literature, which it is so desirable to record.

This is an age of great bibliographical activity. As Americans, we have no reason to be ashamed of the work we have already done in this field. We see what is being done across the water to promote scholarship and literary research. With the great wealth of literary treasures contained in our American libraries it would indeed be a great pity to be outdone by our progressive brethren in England and on the continent.

G: W. C.

MARCHMONT, Frederick, *comp.* A concise handbook of ancient and modern literature, issued either anonymously, under pseudonyms or initials. London: for the author, 1896. 12°, 164 p., 6s. net, cloth.

The title of this work is misleading. A careful examination shows not a single book that can justly be classed as "ancient literature." The preface states that the work is intended as a supplement to Lowndes, Allibone, and Brunet.

The compiler is "quite aware" of the existence of Halkett and Laing's Dictionary, and he thinks it highly probable "that much, if not all, of the matter contained in this small book may be found in the four thick volumes of the above." "The arrangement adopted has been alphabetical, under author's real name (the usual brackets used being excluded), with references in the text to pseudonyms and initials, besides full and complete index of titles of anonymous works noticed." Upon examination it is soon discovered that the references are frequently omitted. In the index of titles many are indexed under the article *The*, and there are hosts of references that have no place in such an index. Notes as to prices of books are frequently given, and it is in such a note we are told that "George Eliot is rather down just now." In short, the book shows no reason for its existence, unless it be that the compiler embraced this means of circulating a picture of himself and his autograph.

S: H. R.

SARGENT, Mary E., and Abby L. (comps.)

Supplement to reading for the young, by John F. Sargent: a classified and annotated catalog with alphabetical author-index and subject-index to the complete work. Published for the A. L. A. Publishing Section by the Library Bureau, Boston, 1896. 125-225 p. O. Pap., 75 c.; cloth, \$1.

This Supplement, the preface states, includes books of 1890 to 1895, all of which have been read and approved by the compilers. It follows the same general classification as the list of 1890, and refers like that not only to books but to articles in *St. Nicholas*, *Wide Awake*, and *Harper's Round Table*, and adds the *Youth's Companion*, the last of which has probably been indexed by no library. Several pages of references on social and political questions, costumes, and the celebration of holidays will be a boon to overworked librarians when the schools are let loose upon them at the busiest time of the day. The use of this "children's Poole" is also seen in the pages on science, especially under Botany and Zoölogy, Engineering, Manufactures, Trades, and Amusements. A short list of French and German books that may be read with pleasure by young people is one of the best features of the Supplement.

In Fairy-tales, there is one important omission. The compilers, while mentioning Lang's Green, Red, and Yellow fairy-books, say nothing of the adaptations of the "Blue fairy-book" in Longman's *Supplementary readers*, and of the *Infant fairy readers* from the "Red fairy-book," both of which are, from their simplicity and short words, the best possible introduction to fairylore for the many children in the public schools who are beginning to use public libraries and have not fairly mastered the English language, and are so cheap — only 15 and 20 cents — that they can be duplicated in large numbers.

Under fiction as Mr. Foster said in his review in the L. J. in November, 1890, no one

"will expect to find even here a collection of titles with which in no individual instance there may be some failure to agree on the part of some one using it." The list is descriptive, not critical, and a librarian ordering books from the list must decide on their merits from short sketches of plots and motives. Historical fiction is carefully classified, and includes some of Stanley Weyman's novels, but omits Byner's "Zachary Phips," one of the best stories on United States history written in many years, although the same author's "Begum's daughter" is in its proper place.

The carefully indexed and annotated lists of biography and travel will be of great service in schools, and a copy of both "Reading for the young" and the Supplement should be among the tools on every teacher's desk, especially in the country, where books are scarce but a few copies of children's magazines are usually taken by the pupils.

The author and subject indexes are carefully prepared, and the whole book, indeed, is an evidence of the most patient and conscientious work on the part of the compilers, whom the whole American Library Association should thank for the self-imposed task which they have undertaken in their few hours of leisure from library work as a memorial to their beloved brother.

CAROLINE M. HEWINS.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

ORR, William, jr. The public school, library, and museum. (*In New England Magazine*, October, p. 245-250.)

Mr. Orr illustrates the excellent results obtained by the close union of public school, public library, and museum, by the work done in this connection at Springfield, Mass., where the City Library and the Museum have for years been closely associated in the work of the schools. An interesting and suggestive paper.

THE ABUSE OF FREE LIBRARIES. (*In Appleton's Popular Science Monthly*, November, 1896. 50: 125.)

Based on President Dana's recent address at Cleveland. "The more persistent visitors [to the library] are largely men who have either failed in a career, or never had a career, or do not wish a career."

THE minutes of the Buxton meeting of the L. A. U. K. are printed in the October issue of *The Library*, which also contains the full text of President Rawson's opening address, and three of the papers presented at the meeting, i.e., "The relation of public libraries to other educational institutions," by T. C. Abbott, of the Manchester Public Libraries; "Public library law," by H. W. Fovargue; and "Chatsworth and its library," by W. Crowther. *The Library* also contains a paper on "The library movement in the far west," by J. C. Dana, of the Denver Public Library.

WATERMAN, Lucy D. Music in libraries. (*In Music*, October, 1896. 10:555.) 3 p.

A brief account of what libraries are doing in the line of music. Some large collections in public libraries are, however, not mentioned.

LOCAL.

Arkansas State L. The 60,000 volumes comprising the Arkansas State Library and representing the accumulation of 50 years are lying at the state house practically in a jumble, and they bid fair to be rendered valueless by premature decay and lack of attention unless the next legislature remedies matters. The books are crowded into a wholly inadequate room on the first floor of the west wing. Some of them are boxed, while all of them are in such an unsystematic shape as to make the task of finding a desired volume akin to a search for a needle in a haystack. The books include works of historical value, and they are certainly worthy of being preserved and of being made accessible; but it is an impossibility for the librarian to evolve order out of chaos at present. Much larger quarters are needed for the proper care and preservation of the volumes. The pressure caused by the weight of the vast number of volumes is so great that the floor is actually in danger of collapsing. — *Little Rock Gazette*.

Asheville (N. C.) L. A. The library has been closed to non-subscribers, owing to lack of financial support. The yearly membership fee is \$2, and for the past 17 years the library has been free to the public for reference or reading-room use.

Auburn (Me.) P. L. (6th rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, '96.) Total 5584; issued, home use 37,087. Visitors to library and reading-room 41,922. New registration 937. Receipts \$999.49. Preparation is being made for printing a dictionary catalog.

Austin, Tex. Y. M. C. A. L. The library now contains about 700 v., and the managers of the association are making an energetic canvass for subscriptions or gifts of books.

Boston P. L. Several changes have been recently made in the administration of the library's delivery stations. More space is to be assigned to each; small permanent collections of books are to be installed, and the system of paying the custodians of the stations is to be altered. Heretofore, the proprietor of a store which has been used as a delivery station has received \$250 a year. According to the new system, the custodian will receive a minimum of \$12 a month on the first 300 books taken out. He will then receive \$3 a hundred up to 1000 books, after which the remuneration will be \$2 a month per 100 books. This will interest the custodian in increasing the circulation of the books under his charge. More comprehensive catalogs are being sent out to the branch libraries, in order that the public may know of all accessions to the central library. At a new station established at 27 Broadway these plans have

been put in operation. This station is not under the care of the shopkeeper, but is in a store rented for the purpose, in charge of one of the library employees, and used only for library purposes. It contains a collection of several hundred volumes, from which selection may be made, as well as through the usual delivery service with the central library. It is open from 7:30 to 9 a.m. and from 4 to 8 p.m., hours chosen because the station is on the line of street-car travel to and from South Boston, and men and women going to and from their work will find it convenient to stop.

At a meeting of the board of aldermen on Oct. 20, an order was submitted requesting the board of trustees of the public library "to include in their next annual estimate for their department a suitable sum for the purpose of increasing their collection of reproductions of works of art."

A recent addition to the art division of the library is a collection of over 1000 photographs of foreign art and architecture, gathered by the late Miss Harriet H. Graupner, and presented to the library as a memorial by her friends. The photographs were collected by Miss Graupner during her travels abroad, and most of them she distributed among her friends, who collected them after her death in 1895 and gave them to the library.

The bronze statue of a bacchante, by Frederick Macmonnies, which was recently offered to the library by Mr. McKim, of McKim, Mead & White, the architects of the building, was on Oct. 12 declined by the Boston Art Commission as not suited to the library building. This decision was later rescinded, and the figure was accepted for the fountain in the central court of the library. The last of the series of panels painted for the library by Puvis de Chavannes have been completed.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A. The association held its first meeting for the season on Oct. 27, at the residence of Mrs. H. W. Chatfield, when plans for the winter's work were outlined and the members pledged themselves to vigorous efforts to awaken public interest in the matter of a public library. Addresses were made by Mrs. Craigie, the president; Dr. Cochrane, of the Polytechnic Institute, and C. Alex. Nelson, of Columbia College Library.

Butte (Mont.) F. P. L. The work of the library for the six months ending Sept. 30 is thus summarized: Added 914; total 20,337. Issued, home use 31,752 (fict. 23,289); lib. use 17,528; ref. use 5625. Card-holders 3019.

Two-book cards have been used by about 200 persons. In the total of the two classes, magazines and fiction, which mostly represent the use of the library for recreative purposes, the issue has fallen about four%. But in the amount of solid reading done there has been an increase of 25%. The statistics of the reading-room and reference department show an increase of 2502 (16½%) in the number of books issued in the reading-room, and of 1239 (30%) in the number of persons who consulted the reference department.

Cincinnati (O.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '96.) Added 5074; total 215,596 (26,105 pm.). 6040 v. have been rebound or repaired, and 5814 v. have been repaired at the library. Issued, home use 305,482 (fict. 79.9%); lib. use 220,190; use of periodicals and newspapers 616,701. Cardholders 24,772. Receipts \$65,354.48; expenses \$54,066.14.

"During the year the trustees, in accordance with their agreement with the board of education, placed in each of the 22 city schools having an intermediate course of study a small but valuable collection of reference-books, as a loan, to be cared for and accounted for each year by the principals of these schools to the public library. This has proved to be a successful venture, and has brought out many expressions of satisfaction from both teachers and pupils."

Mr. Whelpley speaks earnestly of the need of a new and adequate building. Under present circumstances "the way in which the books are kept, the manner of delivery, and the facilities offered are not what they should be." He speaks especially of the value and usefulness of the library's fine art collection, which now fills three rooms.

Cleveland, O. Case L. An exhibition of photographs of famous paintings was opened at the Case Library on Oct. 14. The collection illustrated the history of Italian art from the 13th to the 17th centuries, and was owned by Miss Abbie Z. Webb, who was in charge of the exhibit. It included about 300 photographs, representing the most famous masterpieces of Raphael, Titian, Michael Angelo, Fra Angelico, Giotto, Cimabue, Botticelli, Correggio, Tintoretto, and other Italian masters of the period.

Columbus (O.) P. L. The new reading-room annex to the public library was opened to the public on Oct. 12. The addition to the building is 30 x 110 feet, and contains three rooms—a public reading-room 30 x 60, a reference-room, and a librarian's office—all of which open from the library proper through large arches separated by railings. In the reference-room is shelved the Noble collection of 1000 v. given to the library by President Kilbourne, of the the board of trustees. The new annex will add greatly to the influence and use of the library; the rooms will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on week days, till 8:30 p.m. on Saturdays, and from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Georgia, State library commission proposed. The board of directors of the Young Men's Library of Atlanta, Ga., have appointed a committee to draft a bill providing for the appointment of a state library commission. It is hoped to introduce the bill into the present session of the legislature.

Harrisburg (Pa.) P. L. The library was opened to the public on Oct. 7. It contains about 6000 v., and a fee of \$1 per year is charged, which entitles each borrower to the home use of six books a week.

Helena (Mont.) P. L. At a special session of the city council on Oct. 7 it was decided to make

the library tax for the coming year one mill instead of two half mills, one-half for general and one-half for special purposes, as was originally provided at the spring session. The mill tax will yield about \$12,000 a year.

Hoboken (N. J.) F. P. L. The 6th report of the library, the contents of which were summarized in the L. J. for June (p. 295), contains front elevation, ground plans, and longitudinal section views of the new library building.

Indiana State L., Indianapolis. On Oct. 15 the experiment of keeping the library open in the evening was tried, in response to a communication received by Mrs. Davidson, the librarian. There were no visitors, and if a few more trials indicate no public demand for the convenience, the old practice of closing at 4 p.m. will be returned to.

Iowa City (Ia.) P. L. A. An organization meeting of the association was held Sept. 29, when a constitution was adopted and over \$300 subscribed toward the establishment of a library. A temporary board of nine directors has been appointed pending the first annual election, which will be held in December. The originators of the plan are conducting a vigorous canvass for funds.

Keene Valley (N. Y.) P. L. The library was occupied for the first time on Oct. 3. The building cost \$1200, the site \$500, and a deficiency of \$140 still remains to be met. The sum of \$125 has been raised for current expenses, and new books to the value of \$110 have been purchased; these, with the nucleus on hand, give a total of about 1200 v. The establishment of the building with its contents is largely due to the efforts and contributions of summer visitors.

Le Roy (N. Y.) L. A. Added 51; issued 3200; no. visitors 2300. Receipts \$279.87; expenses \$181.07.

Leicester (Mass.) P. L. The *American Architect and Building News* of Oct. 17 contains an illustration and plan of the Leicester Public Library.

Livermore (Cal.) F. L. The library was opened on the evening of Oct. 17, when the Woman's League of Progress, through whose instrumentality it was established, held a public reception in the library rooms.

Michigan Mining School L., Houghton. (Biennial rpt., in Catalogue of the school, 1894-96.) Added 1194; total 13,353; 1700 pm.

"Books added by purchase relate strictly to the technical subjects taught in the school, and the instructors find the library indispensable in presenting their subjects. It is especially desirable that the library should be rich in reports and works relating to mining and the mineral industry in this and other mining regions of the world." During the present year the library has been removed to new and commodious quarters in Science Hall; it is open daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, throughout the year, for the use of students and the public.

New Orleans, La. Fisk F. and P. L. On Oct. 2 the city council passed an ordinance giving full power to the library board to manage the funds and affairs of the library, including the engagement, salaries, and dismissal of all employees, subject only to semi-annual reports to the city. This marks the point when the history of the New Orleans Free Library may be said to begin. The chairman of the library board will return to his post in November, and immediate action will be taken to furnish the fine library room, which has 14,400 feet of floor-space and 5000 feet of gallery.

New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations. There has been much activity about the Lenox and Astor libraries of late, due to the desire of the trustees to get in place many thousands of new books and pamphlets received from various sources. The valuable collection of historical works relating to the American Revolution, which was presented to the library by John S. Kennedy in June, has just been placed on the shelves, and is open to public inspection at the Astor branch.

The fruits of Dr. Billings's recent trip to Europe are also to be seen in the library. While abroad he succeeded in making arrangements for many valuable exchanges and in getting some 25,000 new volumes and pamphlets. The majority of these documents relate to finance, banking, municipal affairs, and railroads. There is also among them an important collection of works on the separation of the church in Scotland. Dr. Billings is anxious to receive for the public library a full collection of political documents of all kinds and from all parties relating to the recent campaign.

The Astor and Lenox libraries are now fitted with electric light and are open until 9 o'clock every evening. The recent accessions of new books and documents have made necessary the enlarging of the force of workers in the catalog department, and a new room has been fitted up in the Astor Library building for the use of the force.

New York State, libraries chartered. At the regular meeting of the Regents on Oct. 15 charters were granted to the Canastota Public Library, the Hammondspoint Public Library, the Cathedral Free Circulating Library of New York City, and to the De Lancey Floyd-Jones Free Library of Massapequa. A provisional charter was granted to the Northville Public Library of Aquebogue, and the names of the Havana and North Parma public libraries were changed to Montour Falls Public Library and Hilton Public Library, to correspond with the present names of the villages.

Newark (N. J.) F. P. L. At a meeting of the board of trustees on Oct. 12 a resolution was passed offering the New Jersey Historical Society adequate quarters in the proposed new library building. The society, at a meeting on Oct. 14, voted to appoint a committee to accept the offer. The plan has met with general local approval, for the society had been recently offered quarters for its fine collection at Prince-

ton University, and had about decided to accept the proposition when the offer of the library trustees settled the matter to the general satisfaction.

Nyack (N. Y.) L. (Rpt.) Added 471; total 3368. Issued 20,453; membership 1251.

Olneyville (R. I.) F. L. A. (Rpt.) Added 525; total 7000, of which 943 are reference-books. Issued 15,344. Receipts \$5120.09; expenses \$5626.78, leaving a deficit of \$506.69.

The librarian, Mrs. Richardson, has received gifts of a number of illustrated papers, magazines, etc., many of which have been sent out "among old people and invalids who cannot come to the library regularly through the winter months."

"The reading-room is particularly well patronized on days when the mills are idle. Thanks are expressed for the sympathy and helpfulness of the Providence Public Library in every department of our work. Privileges have been so extended as to enable any patron of this library to have any volume of the Providence Public Library for consultation here, the librarian being responsible for the same."

The association has started a movement to obtain a body of guarantors to provide for the deficit of this year and a period of five years, to an extent which shall not exceed \$1500 per year. Thus far guarantors for 96 per cent. of the deficit to the limit fixed have been secured.

Oxford, Ga. Emory College. The new library building to be erected for Emory College will be one of the finest structures of the sort in Georgia. It is to cost \$25,000, the greater part of which has already been raised by subscription. The plans were drawn by S. M. Patton, of Chattanooga, who has followed the Grecian style of architecture in his design. The building, which is to be of cream-white brick or Georgia marble, will have a book capacity of 50,000 volumes.

Peoria (Ill.) P. L. The work of removing the books from the present library to the fine new building was begun early in October. The dedication of the new building will probably take place in the latter part of November.

Philadelphia Commercial Museum L. The bureau of information of the Commercial Museum maintains a library consisting of statistical publications of this and foreign countries, maps, charts, and all prominent trade publications of the world, also official copies of the import and export duties of all foreign countries.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L. During the exhibitions in the art gallery and museum in November there will be an exhibition of books and manuscripts in the library; it will comprise an interesting collection of books illustrating the history of printing, specimens of fine binding, examples of beautiful illustration, as well as some rare and curious volumes. Many of these works are the property of the library; others have been lent for the exhibition.

Plainfield (N. J.) P. L. A pleasant social reception and public book exhibition was held

at the library on the morning and afternoon of Oct. 24. The art-rooms were attractively decorated, and tables devoted to books on special subjects, as science, art, foreign countries, American history, etc., were presided over by different women interested in the library. The books thus shown were described by their custodians and supplemented by photographs and engravings on kindred subjects. The exhibition was largely attended and seemed much enjoyed.

Quincy (Ill.) P. L. (8th rpt.—year ending May 31, '96.) Added 981; total 19,312. Issued, home use 73,390; ref. use 3909; total 77,299 (fict. 54.65%; juv. 21.40%). The Sunday circulation was 1410, and 384 v. were issued on teachers' cards. 64,446 persons visited the reading-room. Receipts \$6855.27; expenses \$6256.78.

The circulation shows an increase of 5118. 43 teachers have made use of the special teachers' cards, on which 10 books for school use may be drawn; lists of books for children have been furnished to the teachers by the librarian.

"To aid the children in their selection of books a table has been placed in the centre of the delivery-room, on which are displayed attractive books in the various classes suitable for children. This table is much resorted to by them, and is used in the same way in which the shelves of new books are used by the older people. As another aid in the selection of books several printed bibliographies of good reading have been placed on the delivery-desk, where they may be readily consulted. These are Sargent's 'Reading for the young,' Leypoldt and Iles's 'Books for girls and women,' 'Catalog of the A. L. A. Library,' and Hardy's '500 books for the young.' They are in constant use. The printed bulletins issued as new books were added have been sent to the schools and colleges, to the State street bank, and the Y. M. C. A., and there distributed." A special bulletin has been issued containing all the works in the library on photography and electricity and its allied subjects.

The whole library, with the exception of the German books, has been re-shelf listed on cards; the Cutter system of book numbers is used, and an end put to the haphazard way of assigning book numbers which before prevailed.

Readville, Mass. Phillips Brooks Memorial L. The library building erected to the memory of Phillips Brooks and given to Readville by Mrs. E. F. Stetson, of Boston, was dedicated on Oct. 14. It stands directly in the rear of Blue Hill Chapel, where Bishop Brooks preached his last sermon, and is a one-story wooden building, 40 feet square, which cost about \$5000. The entrance, by a good-sized porch, is into a corridor 14 feet square. At the left is a coat-room, and at the right a delivery-room for the circulating library. The reading-room, 25 x 39 feet, is entered direct from the corridor. Hard pine floors and sheathing and walls and ceiling finished in water-colors make it a very agreeable place in which to read the books, magazines, and papers which are to be provided. Smyrna rugs on the floor and a fireplace add to the beauty of

the room. Over the fireplace mantel is a life-size oil painting of Phillips Brooks. Above the book-shelves, which encircle the room, are busts of Byron, Franklin, Milton, Washington, Lincoln, Napoleon, Shakespeare, and Dante. The shelves already contain about 300 volumes, also the gift of Mrs. Stetson, and the circulating library of Blue Hill Chapel is soon to be transferred to the new building.

St. Cloud (Minn.) City L. The library opened Oct. 1 in new quarters in the West Hotel building. The new rooms give larger space, better light, and are attractively fitted up. A collection of German books has recently been added.

Schenectady (N. Y.) F. P. L. During the year the library has been open over 1300 persons have taken out cards. The library contains about 4000 v.

Shelter Island (N. Y.) P. L. (11th rpt.) Added 149; total 1282. Issued 3228, an increase of 587 over the preceding year.

Trenton, N. J. Union L. During the year ending Oct. 1, 22,789 persons have visited the library and 12,024 books have been issued, for the use of which fees amounting to \$292.11 have been received. Only 80 books have been bought, owing to lack of funds; 112 v. (32 government publications) have been donated. The library was closed during the evenings of the summer months, on account of inability to pay for lighting. The committee closes its appeal for public aid with this question: "Can a city of nearly 70,000 inhabitants—a growing, manufacturing city—afford to have a public library go down after years of existence because of a lack of funds?"

University of Pennsylvania L., Phila. The library committee of the university has obtained from the trustees an appropriation of \$3000 to purchase back numbers and complete its sets of scientific and literary periodicals. A friend of the college has also given \$1000 for the purchase of current periodicals.

Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L. Hopkins, N. Monroe. The new congressional library building, Washington, and its lighting plant. (*In Electrical Engineer*, Oct. 14, 1896.) 4 col.

The boiler-room is 140 x 41 feet, and contains a battery of 16 60 horse-power horizontal tubular boilers. The building is wired for 8000 lights.

Waterbury, Ct. Bronson L. (27th rpt.) Added 774 ("the smallest number ever reported"); total 52,229. Issued, home use 76,769 (fict. 83.9%); books used in reading-rooms 5073, in ref. rooms 4564. Re-registration was begun in May, and up to Sept. 1, 1904 new cards had been issued. On teachers' cards 1651 v. were issued as against 1778 last year.

"The use of books in the library has more than doubled since the removal to the new building. The duplication of the card catalog is going forward as rapidly as the limited time the cataloger can devote to it will allow."

The opening of the mineralogical and geological collections to the public has resulted in bringing in a large number of interesting specimens as gifts. Among them are mineral specimens from the Yellowstone region, fossil woods from the West, shells from the Gulf of Mexico, and specimens from the Lake Superior copper mines.

Wilmington (Del.) Institute F. L. Mr. Sewall, the librarian, has established a column of "library notes" in one of the local Sunday dailies. Through its medium he makes public interesting notes and items as to new books, library affairs, etc., and brings new accessions to general notice. In the *Star* of Oct. 25 he gave a review of the history of the library since it was made free in 1894, and showed its use by school-children; of 1795 pupils in the high schools 898 are non-cardholders. Application blanks, lists, circulars, etc., are distributed among the high schools, and Mr. Sewall says, "I want to keep up the crusade until not a single scholar presents himself at the high school who is not a borrower at the library."

FOREIGN.

Canada libraries. The *Canadian Bookseller and Library Journal* for October announces a series of articles on "Some Canadian libraries," which are prefaced by a general sketch of the subject, describing the libraries of Ontario and the results of the library act of 1882.

Gifts and Bequests.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L. The trustees recently had a singular proposition of a means to obtain a new building presented to them by C. F. Parmelee, a poor contractor of Grand Rapids. He stated that he had a \$5000 life insurance policy upon his father, who was 70 years old and could not live more than a few months. He offered to assign this policy to the city if they would pay all future premiums, allow him to draw the plans for the building, and give him and his wife any kind of a position in the new library. He said that his \$5000 would at least buy a site and would start other contributions.

Lisbon, O. Mrs. C. W. Lepper, of St. Paul, Minn., has given to the city of Lisbon \$10,000 for a public library, of which \$5000 is to be devoted to a building and \$5000 to books and furnishings. The library is to be a memorial to her husband and will be known as the Lepper Library. She has named a board of seven trustees.

Oyster Bay (L. I.) People's L. A friend of the library, whose name is not made public, has presented to the trustees a plot of ground valued at \$2600, as a site for a building. A building fund of \$6000 is being raised by subscription, of which all but \$1400 has been already contributed.

Rushville, N. Y. Charles Loomis, son of ex-Judge Loomis, an old resident of Rushville,

who now lives in Paris, has notified the trustees of Rushville of his desire to bequeath to that village the sum of \$20,000 for a public library. This amount is to be used for the buying of a lot, the erection of the building, and its equipment, the village to be taxed for its maintenance. A petition is to be circulated among the taxpayers, and the legal action necessary to receive the gift will be probably taken.

Rutherford, N. J. David B. Ivison, of the American Book Co., has given to the Rutherford Free Library Association a building, to be a permanent home for the Rutherford Free Library. It is known as Ivison Hall, and is a pretty stone structure, formerly the Presbyterian church, valued at about \$10,000.

Utica (N. Y.) P. L. On Oct. 2 the library received its first cash donation, a gift of \$3000 presented by a friend whose name is not made public, to be used in completing the card catalog. Work on the card catalog has been in progress for about a year, and the gift will be used in employing two additional catalogers which will probably permit of its completion in about 12 months. It is the ambition of the librarian and trustees to increase the number of volumes in the juvenile department and to establish a comfortable reading-room solely for the children. Should any of the \$3000 remain after the work of cataloging is finished, it will be appropriated for this purpose. The library committee now has under consideration a list of about 500 juvenile books recommended by Miss Underhill.

Yale University L. J. M. Sears, of Boston, a member of the Yale class of '77, has given to the university the 7000-v. library of Prof. Ernst Curtius, recently sold in Germany. The collection is made up of about 3500 bound volumes and 3500 pamphlets and dissertations; it is said to be one of the most important archaeological libraries sold in Germany since the death of Prof. Otto Young. Dr. Curtius was an authority on Greek archaeology and antiquities, and was, since 1870, director of the antiquarian department of the Royal Museum of Berlin.

Librarians.

ALLEN, Miss Mary S., of the Drexel Institute library class of '96, has been appointed librarian of the Friends' Library, Philadelphia. Miss Allen was engaged in organizing the Kennett Square Library previous to her appointment at the Friends' Library.

ANDREWS, Miss Elizabeth Parkhill, has resigned her position as librarian of the Wethersfield (Ct.) Public Library to continue her studies at the New York State Library School, where she is a member of the senior class. Mrs. N. A. Roberts was elected her successor on Oct. 19.

BALDWIN, Miss Elizabeth G., librarian of the Bryson Memorial Library, Teachers College, New York, was tendered a complimentary luncheon at Clark's, 23d street, on Saturday,

Nov. 7, by members of the library staff of Columbia University Library, with whom she was formerly associated. Covers were laid for 20, and this novel form in library circles of saying good-by and expressing good wishes was fully enjoyed by all who participated.

BROOKS, Miss Florence, for several years the efficient and popular reference librarian in charge of the reading-room of the Newberry Library, Chicago, has so far recovered from her long-protracted illness as to be able to accept a position in charge of the library in Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, and has entered upon the duties of her new position. Her numerous friends will wish her speedy restoration to her full measure of usefulness in library work.

BYRAN, Miss Mary Evelyn, has been appointed librarian of the Eldredge Library, of Chatham, Mass.

CLARKE, Miss Elizabeth P., is organizing and cataloging a library of 5000 volumes at Princeton, Ill.

COLE, Mr. and Mrs. George Watson, will sail for Havre by the steamer *La Touraine* on Saturday, Nov. 21. They expect to spend the winter in the south of France.

CRUCE, Miss Mary Z., of the Drexel Institute library class of '96, has been appointed assistant at the Drexel Institute Library.

DENIO, Herbert W., late of the N. Y. State Library School, has been engaged to assist in the cataloging at McGill University Library, Montreal.

DEXTER, Miss Lydia A., of the John Crerar Library, Chicago, has been organizing the Public Library at Camden, Me., during part of August and September.

DORTCH, Miss Ellen, assistant librarian of the Georgia State Library, is the person most interested in a bill which is to be presented at the coming legislature, making women eligible to the post of state librarian. If the bill passes there is little doubt that Miss Dortch will be the next state librarian of Georgia. She is well known in the political, journalistic, and literary circles of the state, and was appointed to her present position in the library by Governor Atkinson two years ago. The term of Col. Milledge, the present librarian, expires in about a year, and Miss Dortch has a strong political backing in her candidacy. It is to be regretted that a movement of the sort should be so wholly a matter of politics.

EASTMAN, Miss Linda A., assistant librarian of the Cleveland Public Library, is superintending the reclassification of the Ohio State Library at Columbus.

ELMENDORF, Theresa West. The following resolutions were recently adopted by the trustees of the Milwaukee Public Library:

"Resolved, That Theresa H. West, having resigned her position as librarian, the trustees of the Milwaukee Public Library desire to express and record their appreciation of her faithful and valuable services during the past 18

years. Through this long period of her connection with the library, first in the capacity of assistant and afterward as its official head, she has been the earnest advocate of every measure that would promote its interest or add to its usefulness. To her wise and intelligent effort the library owes the widening of the sphere of its influence in many directions, and especially in that of the vital connection which has been established between it and the public school.

"Resolved, Also, that Miss West has an especial claim to the gratitude of the trustees for the work she has done in connection with the new building. Her deep interest in the future of the library, as well as her excellent judgment and taste, have made her assistance of the greatest value.

"Resolved, That the trustees desire to express their deep regret at the resignation of Miss West from the position which she has so efficiently and satisfactorily filled."

HENSEL, Martin, has been appointed librarian of the Columbus (O.) Public School Library, succeeding the late John M. Spielman. Mr. Hensel was born in Columbus in 1843, and has spent most of his life in that city. He served during the war in the 108th Ohio Volunteers Infantry, and after leaving the army entered the book business in Columbus. In 1890 he became private secretary to Prof. T. C. Mendenhall, superintendent of the coast survey, and when Prof. Mendenhall resigned in 1894, he accepted a position in the Smithsonian Institution. He resigned that position and returned to Columbus some months since.

LIVERIGHT, Miss Ada F., of the Drexel Institute library class of '96, has been appointed assistant in the library of the Philadelphia Museums.

MACMULLEN, John, who was for a number of years librarian of the Society Library of New York City, and had been for the past few years a member of the staff of Columbia University Library, died on Sept. 11. Mr. MacMullen was one of the oldest librarians in the country, a graduate of Columbia College (1837), and remained in library work until practically the last day of his life.

MERRILL, Edward B., has been appointed librarian of the Bar Association of New York.

PERKINS, W. Dana, state librarian of California, died at his home in Sacramento on Oct. 18, of paralysis, from which he had been suffering since last December. Mr. Perkins, who was born in Jefferson, N. H., about 67 years ago, came to California in 1850, and engaged in mining on Rattlesnake Bar, then said to be one of the liveliest camps in the state. He made many friends and had not been there long before the people of the camp elected him constable. Ever since then he has taken a most active part in politics. The people of Placer County twice elected him to the office of tax collector. He served as sergeant-at-arms of the assembly during two sessions of the legislature, and for many years was the travelling land adjuster for the Central Pacific Railroad Company.

He was appointed state librarian in April, 1890, and was an effective and energetic official. In 1892 he presented a plan for a complete bibliography and Index of California publica-

tions, for which he asked the sanction of the library trustees; the bibliography was published in 1894 as part of the biennial report of the state library, and it was a useful addition to the scanty literature of the subject. Mr. Perkins leaves a wife and two sons, one of whom, M. Dana Perkins, is assistant state librarian.

SAUNDERS, Frederick, for nearly 40 years connected with the Astor Library, has, at his own request, been retired from the post of chief librarian of that institution. His resignation was made public on Nov. 16, and was owing to his increasing years and the additional burden which the consolidation of the Astor with the Lenox and Tilden libraries would entail upon him. In asking for retirement after his period of long and faithful service, Mr. Saunders presented to the library trustees a manuscript copy of the "History of the Astor Library," upon which he has been at work for years. This gift was accepted by the trustees, who passed a complimentary resolution as to Mr. Saunders's service to the library, and voted to continue his salary during his lifetime. As chief librarian of the Astor Library and as an author, Mr. Saunders, now 89 years old, is known on both continents. He was born in London, England, on August 14, 1807, the son of the head of the book publishing firm of Saunders & Ottley, in that city. In 1837, when 30 years old, he came to New York City on the invitation of Nathaniel P. Willis to establish an agency and bring out an American *édition de luxe* of Bulwer's "Rienzi," which was issued in elaborate style by his father's firm in England. The book was pirated by American publishers, and this one book cost Mr. Saunders a heavy loss. This was the beginning of a fight to push forward a scheme to secure an international copyright law in the United States Congress. Mr. Saunders was one of the most earnest in his efforts to procure the enactment of proper copyright laws, and his labors in this field, more than his enterprise as a publisher, brought him into warm personal relations with the foremost of America's early literary men. In this mission he was assisted by Washington Irving, William Cullen Bryant, George Bancroft, and most of the men of literary prominence at the time. Six petitions were sent to congress in succeeding years for the passage of an international copyright law, but all failed to receive the proper support, and the enterprise was abandoned. In the meantime Mr. Saunders took up the profession of journalism, and became the city editor of the *Evening Post*. He also wrote extensively for the Harpers' publications. The Astor Library opened its doors in 1854, and five years later, in 1859, Mr. Saunders accepted the office of assistant librarian there. At that time Washington Irving was one of the trustees. Until 1876 Mr. Saunders remained in a subordinate capacity, as assistant, but was promoted to the office of chief librarian in 1876. Despite his labors in the library, Mr. Saunders has found leisure to devote much time to literary work, and has writ-

ten many books, among the most notable of which are "Salad for the solitary and the social," "Pastime papers," "Evenings with the sacred poets," "Story of some famous books," "Stray leaves of literature," and "Character studies." Although in his 90th year, Mr. Saunders is comparatively strong and robust. His successor has not been appointed.

SHELDON, Miss Helen Griswold, formerly librarian of the Tome Institute, Port Deposit, Md., has succeeded the late Miss Bessie R. Macky in the library of Drexel Institute, Phila.

SPIELMAN, J. H., librarian of the Columbus (O.) Public School Library, died at his home in Columbus on Friday, October 9. Mr. Spielman was born in Lancaster, O., Jan. 2, 1840, and studied at Capital University, in Lancaster, of which his father was president. He served a year in the army, and after graduation in 1863 entered the Lutheran Seminary in St. Louis to prepare for the ministry. Ill-health, however, made this impracticable, and he was appointed tutor and later professor in Capital University, where he served until 1872. He then entered into business partnership with his brother in Canal Winchester, O., and after six prosperous years removed to Cincinnati, where for three years the firm conducted a dry-goods establishment. They were unfortunate in the venture and gave it up. Mr. Spielman removing to Columbus, where, after several years in a mercantile position, he was elected librarian of the Public School Library, a position he held until his death. He leaves a widow and six children.

STEINER, Dr. Bernard C., of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, has completed "A history of the plantation of Menunkatuck and of the original town of Guilford, comprising the present towns of Guilford and Madison, 1636-1896," which is announced for publication by subscription. The work is largely based upon the material relating to Guilford collected by the late Ralph Dunning Smith, who had indeed begun to prepare a history of the old Connecticut town shortly before his death. Dr. Steiner began the work some 10 years since, and has collected much valuable original material from sources not accessible until recently.

WINLOCK, William Crawford, assistant in charge of the Bureau of International Exchanges of the Smithsonian Institution, died at Bay Head, N. J., Sept. 20, 1896. Mr. Winlock was born in Cambridge, Mass., March 27, 1859. He was a graduate of Harvard College, and had some experience in the Harvard College Observatory, where his father, Prof. Joseph Winlock, had been director. He came to the U. S. Naval Observatory as an assistant astronomer in August, 1880, and remained until May, 1889, when he went to the Smithsonian Institution as an assistant to the secretary, having charge of the International Exchanges. At the time of his death he had just returned from a trip to Europe made to inspect the work of exchanges there.

Cataloging and Classification.

BARRE (*Mass.*) F. P. L. Catalog of the library in the Woods Memorial Library Building. Barre, 1896. 8+276 p. O.

This is the most extensive catalog yet printed of a library classed on Cutter's expansive system. It is unusually well printed in large type, with the authors in a bold black face, and will be easy to use. Biography, arranged by subjects, and Fiction, arranged by authors, come first; the class-mark is omitted in fiction. Then comes the classed catalog, made very clear by prominent centre headings. An author index and a subject index follow, both printed in as large type as the body of the work. This catalog will be an excellent example to follow for all who use the expansive system. C: A.C.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* contains in its October issue a list of recent campaign literature and publications on the currency question.

BROOKLINE (*Mass.*) P. L. Books for boys and girls in the Brookline Public Library, arranged for the existing courses of study in grammar grades of the public schools, selected and annotated by Miss Mary McSkimmon, Principal Pierce Grammar School. 16 p. D.

The CINCINNATI (*O.*) P. L. *Quarterly bulletin* no. 128, April-June, recently issued, has a capital reference list on "The money question." It covers eight pages, is classed by subject and point of view, and includes a full list of the more notable magazine articles.

The DENVER (*Col.*) P. L. has issued an eight-page leaflet list of "Books about the Jews, their history, religion, and writings in the Public Library."

The ENOCH PRATT F. L. *Quarterly bulletin* for October contains, in addition to the usual record of accessions, a list of a collection of Danish and Swedish books recently added to the library. It includes several hundred volumes by the best-known Scandinavian authors.

HOEPLI, Ulrico, the well-known Italian publisher and bookseller, celebrates the 25th anniversary of his establishment by the issue of a souvenir catalog entitled "XXV. anni di vita editoriale: Catalogo cronologico, alfabetico-critico, sistematico e per soggetti delle edizioni Hoepli, 1872-1896." It is prefaced with an introduction by Gaetano Negri. The author list is fully annotated; prices, of course, are given, and the catalog should be useful to all libraries that buy Italian works. The catalog contains nearly 500 pages and is a substantial octavo volume.

INTERNATIONAL CATALOGING. At a meeting of the Philosophical Society of Washington, held Oct. 31, 1896, Prof. Simon Newcomb, U. S. N., who with Dr. J. S. Billings, U. S. A., represented this country at the international conference for indexing scientific literature, recently held in London under the auspices of the Royal Society, made a brief verbal state-

ment of the work and conclusions reached by that body. After the statement by Prof. Newcomb, many questions were put to him by his hearers; and a discussion took place which showed that the representatives of the various branches of science present were all deeply interested in the success of the scheme.

The MILWAUKEE P. L. has issued a capital 8-page reading list on "Thanksgiving day," prepared by Miss L. E. Stearns for the use of the schools. About 175 titles are listed.

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for October contains reference list no. 14 on "William Shakespeare." (6½ p.)

The NEW HAVEN (*Conn.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* has not overlooked the popular interest in finance and money matters. The August issue had a four-page classed list of books and chapters on the silver question, and in the September number recent publications on the money question were grouped with a list of periodical articles on the subject published during the year.

NEWARK (*N. J.*) F. P. L. Special reading list no. 7: Money, finance, and banking; gold, silver, and bimetalism. 32 p. D. Includes magazine articles.

PEORIA (*Ill.*) P. L. System of classification. Peoria, Ill., 1896. 8 p. O.

This is in the so-called "inverted Baconian" order. It has therefore a general resemblance to the Dewey decimal, of which it is evidently a descendant, but the subordinate order is often different and the notation is not decimal but centennial. The numbers of the classes run from 2 to 100, but 79 is not used. Subdivisions are marked with letters, and in some cases a further subdivision is marked with figures (thus Kindergarten is 3144), or where more than nine are wanted with a second letter (Dogs and cats is 63ba).

PRIVATE LIBRARIES. The first part of the "List of private libraries" compiled by G. Hedeler, of Leipzig, will be issued in December. It will include more than 500 important private collections of the United States and Canada. The statements as to the number of volumes, the principal features, etc., of the separate collections have been furnished, almost without exception, by their owners. The second part, now being prepared, will contain about the same number of considerable private libraries in Great Britain.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for October devotes its special reference list to Bimetalism, and has a "Special catalog" no. 6, on Banking. In the November number the reference list relates to Municipal government.

The ST. LOUIS (*Mo.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for October continues the library's catalog of English prose fiction from S to Tad.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for October devotes its "special reading list" to "Electricity and magnetism." This supplements the

list printed in the *Bulletin* for November, 1891. It covers six pages and is excellent in material and arrangement.

The SOMERVILLE (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for October has three special reading lists: on "Kindergarten," "Burgoyne's campaign," and "Hallowe'en."

U. S. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS. The *Washington Book Chronicle* includes from time to time short lists of the more important publications issued by Congress and the various departments of the government; the price of each is given.

U. S. N. Y. Extension bulletin, no. 14, September, 1896. Class list of a \$500 library recommended for schools. 32 p. O.

An interesting and helpful list, including about 400 v. From the whole selection a \$200 collection may be chosen if desired, by selecting only books marked with the italic letter *a*; if to these the books marked *b* are added, the amount will reach \$300. Editions have been selected as carefully as possible, with a view to economy and to good print, paper, and editing. There are occasional notes as to editions, alternative or more expensive books. With each subject heading, general or individual, is given the cost of the books in the division, and each book is also priced separately. A list of the books required in the Regents' reading courses in English and American literature and in U. S. history is appended.

The WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains short reading lists on "Cuba" and on "periodical literature on the currency question"; in the October issue the special list is devoted to "50 books on bimetalism, free coinage of silver, paper money, and banking," selected by Prof. J. L. McLaughlin, instructor in political economy in the University of Chicago.

WILMINGTON (Del.) INSTITUTE F. L. Handbook no. 2. A classified list of selected books for young people. 32 p. Tt.

"Contains twice as much matter as Handbook no. 1, and entirely supersedes it." Includes no fiction.

FULL NAMES.

Mrs. Mollie Evelyn (Moore) Davis (Under the man-fig);

Frank Leiby Stanton (Songs of the soil);

Stone, Lucy Bradlee (Vexilla regis. L. B. S. on title-page).

Authority of publisher. N. E. B.

Wingate, Charles E. L., author of "Shakespeare's heroines on the stage," is entered in the Supplement to Allibone as Charles Edward Louis Wingate, with a statement that he is a graduate of Harvard, 1883. In the Harvard catalog of 1883 his name is given as Charles Edgar Lewis Wingate, and also in the Harvard Quinquennial in two places. This looks as though Allibone's Supplement was wrong.

N. E. B.

Bibliography.

AFRICA. A complete list of documents (26 in all) in the archives of the Vatican concerning Africa, is Appendix A of "Monomotapa (Rhodesia)," by Hon. A. Wilmot, published by T. Fisher Unwin, London. For the benefit of students the library reference of each document is given.

AMERICAN HISTORY. In the "Guide to the study of American history," by Edward Channing and Albert Bushnell Hart, published by Ginn & Co., there is a chapter on "Working libraries" which may be of interest to librarians because of the lists of books there given. There are six lists, ranging from two books to a \$100 collection. These consist of books which cover the whole field of American history in systematic fashion. Care has been taken to include, so far as possible, books which balance each other either by treating different phases of American history or by taking different sides on the same general question.

N. E. B.

BORNEO. Roth, H: Ling. The natives of Sarawak and British North Borneo. N. Y., Truslove & Comba, 1896. 2 v., 32+464; 4+302+246 p. il. \$15.

Contains a 6-p. bibliography.

BROWNING, Robert T. T: J. Wise, in the *Athenæum* of Sept. 26, continues his bibliography of the writings of Browning. He gives in that instalment a list of 36 contributions to periodical literature, etc.

CHARITIES. The Civic Club of Philadelphia has published a digest of the educational and charitable institutions of that city. Appendix 7 of the introduction, p. 164-174, is a "Partial reading and reference list of books and important articles relating to charities."

EIKON BASILIKE. Almack, Edward. A bibliography of the king's book, or Eikon Basilike. London, Blades, East & Blades, 1896. 4°.

Reviewed in *The Library* for October, and commended as showing "indefatigable industry and full of new and interesting information."

FISH AND FISHING. Albee, Louise Rankin. The Bartlett collection: a list of books on angling, fishes and fish culture, in Harvard College Library. (Harvard Univ. Lib., Bibliographical contributions, no. 51.) Cambridge, Harvard Univ. Lib., 1896. 181 p. O.

This collection was formed by John Bartlett, author of "Familiar quotations," "Concordance to Shakespeare," etc., and was by him presented to Harvard University Library on Nov. 17, 1892, when it numbered 1014 v. and 269 pm. While to this collection were later added most of the books on angling possessed by the library, it does not represent the full strength of the library in fisheries, fish culture, etc., nor

in travels, etc., dealing indirectly with angling. A full author list, followed by a subject index, referring to authors' surnames, or, for anonymous books, first word of titles. Titles are fully given, place of publication, date, size, paging, illustrations, etc., are noted, and there are frequent interesting annotations. Shelf-marks in heavy type are given at the right hand of each entry; these, with the arrangement of titles, "have been determined solely by the requirements of the card catalog, since the list is printed from the type set up from the cards." The bibliography is a most interesting one; it contains, as a special gem, a fac-simile of the original ms. of James Russell Lowell's ode "to John Bartlett, who sent me a vii pound brook trout."

FORAMINIFERA. Sherborn, C: Davies. An index to the genera and species of the foraminifera. (Smithsonian miscellaneous collections.)

The first part of this index (A - Non) was published in 1893; the second part, completing the index, has just been issued. The two parts comprise 485 pages, and the compiler states in the introduction of the second part that he has compiled an index to the contents of all publications on this special group known to him as issued up to December, 1889.

GREEN, W: H: A 13-p. bibliography of the writings of Prof. W: H: Green, of Princeton, compiled by Jos. H. Dulles, is contained in the Green memorial volume entitled "Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the appointment of Prof. William Henry Green as an Instructor in Princeton Theological Seminary," issued by Charles Scribner's Sons.

KANT. *Supplement No. 2*, June, 1896, of the *Philosophical Review* contains p. 381-623 of Dr. Erich Adicke's German Kantian Bibliography. There is an index of names and also of subjects. The bibliography is brought down to 1804, and the critical notes are very complete.

KIPLING, Rudyard. The November issue of *The Bookman* contains "A bibliography of first editions of Rudyard Kipling," compiled by Ernest Dressel North; it includes 25 titles.

PAINTING. The third, and last, volume of Richard Muther's "History of modern painting," recently published by Henry & Co., of London, contains a bibliography covering p. 805-830.

PHILOSOPHY. Weber, Alfred. History of philosophy; authorized tr. by Frank Thilly. N. Y., Scribner's Sons, 1896. c. 10+630 p. O. net, \$2.50.

Contains a 7-p. bibliography.

SLAVERY. Cooley, H: Scofield. A study of slavery in New Jersey. Balt., Johns Hopkins Press, [1896.] c. 60 p. O. (Johns Hopkins Univ. studies, 14th ser., nos. 9, 10.) 50 c. Contains a short bibliography.

THIRTY-NINE ARTICLES. Green, E. Tyrrell. The thirty-nine articles and the age of the Reformation. London, Wells Gardner, Darton & Co., 1896.

Contains a 3-p. bibliography arranged under two headings: (a) Books upon the xxxix articles in particular; (b) Historical and doctrinal works.

U. S. CONSTITUTION. Paul L. Ford's valuable Bibliography of the constitution is printed in enlarged and revised form in v. 2 of G: T. Curtis's "Constitutional history of the United States," completed by J. C. Clayton and recently published by Harper. In its revised form this bibliography covers 57 pages.

INDEXES.

DODD, MEAD & Co., N. Y., have in press for early publication "The comprehensive subject index to universal prose fiction," by Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, librarian of the University of Chicago. The work is announced as an "arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of all works of fiction in all languages which are founded upon facts—historical, physical, psychological, or moral." It has not been the object of the author to include in this topical arrangement all works of fiction, but only novels with a purpose—those which are sent out into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind. And it is hoped that it will meet the present general need of subject classified catalogs of fiction. The index has been made as simple in its method as possible; it will include over 10,000 entries, and the chronology of events embraces the centuries within the dates 800 B.C. and 1896 A.D.

CORRECTION. Annual Literary Index, 1894, p. 53. Under Hallowe'en reformation, etc., for Cent. 49:48(O) read Cent. 49:48(N).

A. E. WHITAKER.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Arthur Anyand, ps. of Captain Andrew Haggard. — *Nottingham (Eng.) L. Bulletin*.

Henry Seton Merriman "is a pen-name for Hugh S. Scott." — *Bookman*, Sept., p. 10.

Historicus is the pseudonym used by Richard Cadbury in his work "Cocoa: all about it," published by Sampson Low, Marston & Co., 1896. S: H. R.

Hope Hollister.—Mrs. Callista Hollister Munzinger, who died August 18, at her home in Philadelphia. She wrote, among other books, "What is worship?" and "Sunshine in shadows." — *Phila. Eve. Bulletin*.

Neil Floyd, ps. of Mrs. Cornelia Floyd. — *Nottingham (Eng.) L. Bulletin*.

Im. Baldur—Wilhelm Backhaus, noted social economist. — *N. Y. Staats-Zeitung*, 1 Mar. 1, 1896. F. WEITENKAMPF.

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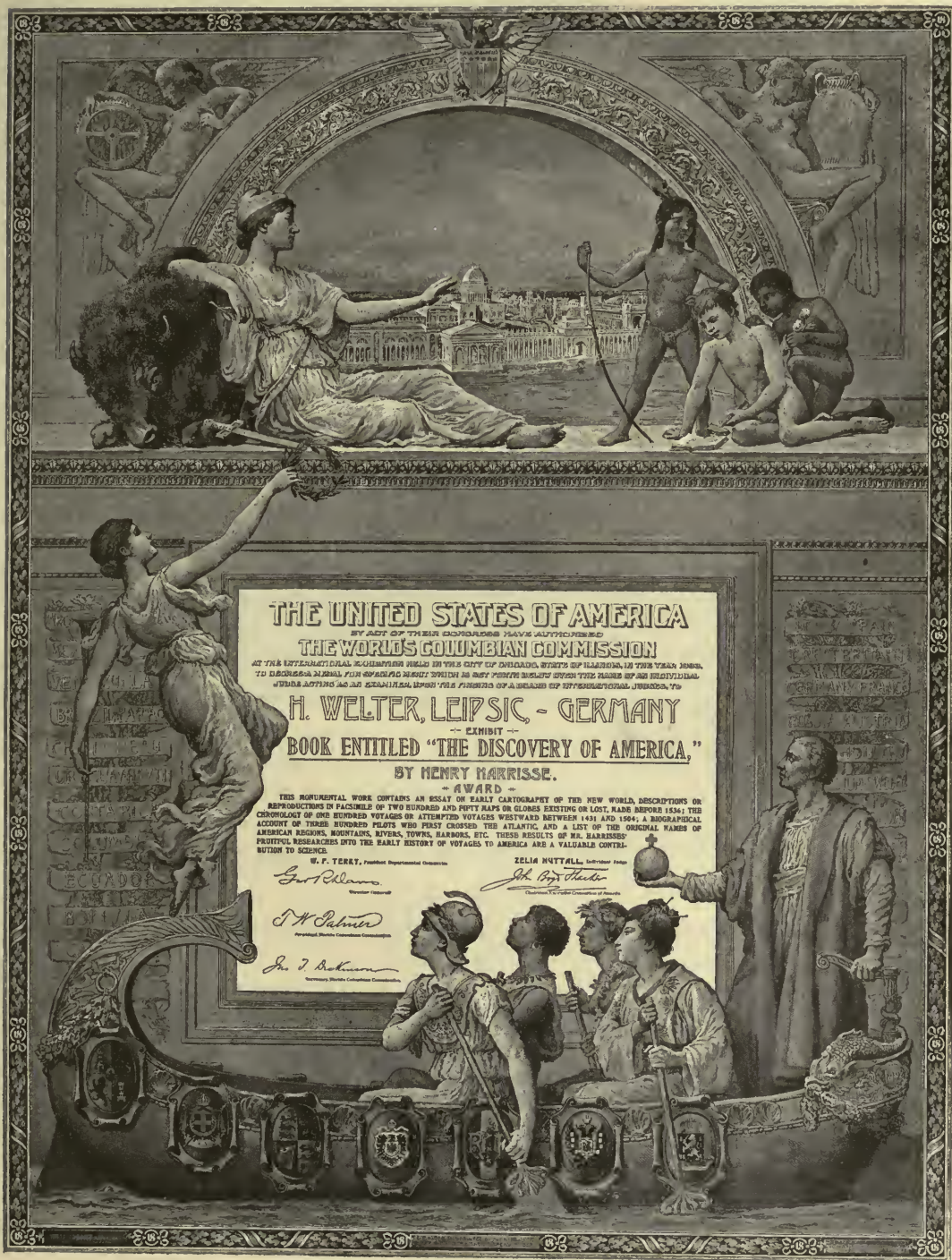
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<i>Archives de biologie</i> . Vol. 1-17. 1880-95. 420		<i>Kurschner's deutsche Nationalliteratur</i> . 218 vols. All out. 1885-96. Bound. 400	
<i>Archives de Physiologie normale et pathologique</i> . Vol. 1-25. 1868-92. Bound. 600		<i>Liebig's Annalen d. Chemie u. Pharmacie</i> . Complete set from 1844 to 1896. Bound. 1800	
<i>Atti dell'Academ. dei Lincei</i> . Complete from beginning, 1847 to 1895. 850		<i>Martins, Endlicher u. Eichler, flora Brasiliensis</i> . Lfg. 1-109. 1840-96. 2400	
<i>Berichte d. deutschen chem. Gesellschaft</i> . Bd. 1-28. 1868-96. Bound. 640		<i>Meyer, Konversations-Lexikon</i> . 4th ed. 19 vols. 1885-95. All out. Bound. (M.190) 90	
<i>Brockhaus, Konversations-Lexikon</i> . 14th ed. 16 vols. 1894-96. Bound. (M.160) 90		<i>Moniteur universel du 5 mai 1789 a 31 decembre 1868 suivi du Journal officiel de 1869 a 1894 incl.</i> Avec introd. analyses. Moniteur de Gand. Relié. 2000	
<i>Bronn, Klassen u. Ordnungen d. Tierreichs</i> . New ed. All from beginning to 1895. All published. Bound. 400		<i>Palaeontographica</i> . Hrsg. v. Duncker, Meyer, Zittel, etc. All out. 1851-95. 1950	
<i>Calvinus, Opera omnia</i> . Ed. by Baum, Cunitz, Reuss. 51 vols. 1863-96. (M.612) Bound. 290		<i>Patrologia graeca</i> . 81 vols. en 85 vols. 525	
<i>Centralblatt, Botanisches</i> . Bd. 1-64. 1880-95. Bound. 450		<i>Patrologia latina</i> . 222 vols. 1500	
<i>Corpus Inscriptionum latinarum</i> . So far as published. 1600		<i>Patrologia graeca en grec et latin</i> . 161 vols. en 165 vols. 5000	
<i>Crelle's Journal f. reine u. angewandte Mathematik</i> . Bd. 1-114. 1826-94. 1600		<i>Poggendorff's Annalen d. Physik u. Chemie</i> . Complete set from the commencement, 1824 to 1894. Bound. 2700	
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<i>Dissertationen</i> . 25,000 different medical dissertations, occasional writings, etc. 4200		<i>Stephanus, R., Thesaurus graeca Linguae</i> . Ed. III. Ed. Hase et Dindorf. 8 vols. in 9. 1831-65. Fol. bound. 310	
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<i>Herzog u. Plitt, Realencyclopädie d. protestantischen Theologie u. Kirche</i> . 2d ed. 18 vols. 1877-89. Bound. (M.255) 100		<i>Zeitschrift f. Ethnologie</i> . Bd. 1-26. 1869-94. Bound. 250	
<i>Jahrbuch, Morphologisches</i> . Bd. 1-22. 1875-94. Bound. 700		<i>Zeitschrift, Historische</i> . Hrsg. v. H. v. Sybel. Vol. 1-69. 1859-95. Bound. 450	
<i>Jahrbücher, Botanische, f. Systematische Pflanzengeschichte</i> . Hrsg. v. A. Engler. Bd. 1-20. 1880-95. 400			

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HARRISSE (Henry). The Discovery of North America. A critical and documentary investigation. In 4 v., 23 in. 11. Paris, H. Welter, 1892. (150 fr.) For American libraries, 100 fr. = \$20, if they order direct. On Dutch paper (250 fr.) for 180 fr. = \$36. On Japanese Vellum (400 fr.) for 300 fr. = \$60.
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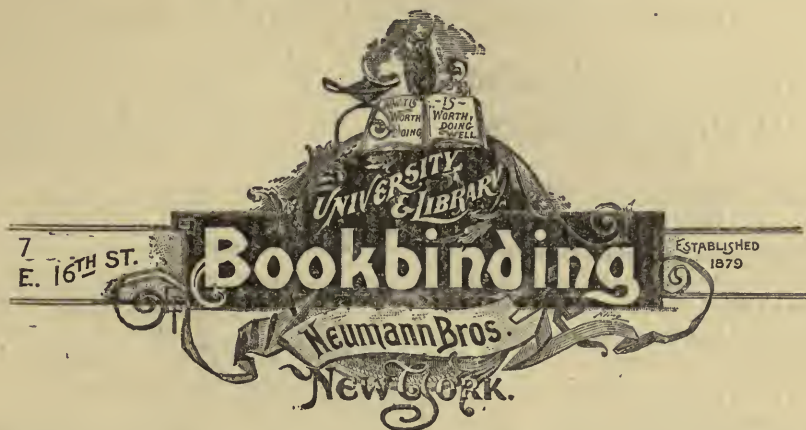
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ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT, JOHN COTTON DANA, LIBRARIAN OF THE
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HEAR THE OTHER SIDE.

I SOMETIMES fear my enthusiasm for the free public library is born more of contagion than of conviction. Consider the thing in some of its evident aspects. You have a building perhaps erected to perpetuate a good man's memory, a monument and of use only as a monument; or constructed in accordance with the views of an architect whose ideas of beauty are crude and whose thought of utility is naught; ill-adapted to the purpose for which it is intended; poorly lighted; badly ventilated. In it are stored a few thousand volumes, including, of course, the best books of all time—which no one reads—and a generous per cent. of fiction of the cheaper sort. To this place come in good proportion the idle and the lazy. Also the people who can't endure the burden of a thought, and who fancy they are improving their minds, while in fact they are simply letting the cool water of knowledge trickle through the sieve of an idle curiosity. The more persistent visitors are largely men who either have failed in a career, or never had a career, or do not wish a career. We all know our own indolents, our own idlers, our own "boarders." There is little that is inspiring, *per se*, in the sight of the men who gather in the newspaper reading-room of any free public library. There is not much that is encouraging in a careful look at the people who are the more constant visitors to the shelves of the reference department. Who wear out our dictionaries, the students of language or the competitors in a word-building contest? Of those who come to the delivery counter, if our friends tell the truth, 60 to 80 per cent. rarely concern themselves, as far

as the library knows them, with anything outside of fiction, and in that field concern themselves generally only with the latest novel, which they wish because it is the latest. And of this 60 to 80 per cent., a large proportion—probably at least half—prefer to get, and generally do get, a novel of the cheaper kind.

I am stating the case plainly. I share your enthusiasm; but that enthusiasm is not seldom to me—and I believe to you—a cause for surprise. Has it not often come sharply home to every one of you—the hopelessness of the task we assume to set ourselves? the triviality of the great mass of the free public library's educational work? the discouraging nature of the field? the pettiness, the awful pettiness, of results?

Nor is this all. That we strive for great things and accomplish the infinitely little; that our output is by no means commensurate with the size of the plant and the cost of its maintenance, this is by no means the only fact which may rightly sober our enthusiasm.

Fathers and mothers love their children and look after their happiness. The more they do this, the more they concern themselves that the human beings they have brought into the world be self-reliant, self-supporting people, knowing how to live in harmony with their fellows, and wishing so to live, the more civilized are they. Parental responsibility is something the sense of which has never been too acute. That I may rightly scorn and despise my neighbor if his children be not decent, attractive, civilized; that my neighbor may rightly consider himself disgraced if his offspring grew not up in the fear

and admonition of the—good citizen; these things are not yet commonly received. The native manners and the education of the American child are looked upon, not so much as the result of parentage and home training, as the good gift of God and the public school.

A strong sense of parental responsibility—this is a prime essential in the growth of true culture—in the increase of social efficiency. And this feeling of obligation to train properly the souls of one's own creation; this sense that the parent can win public approval as a parent only when the result is an additional factor in the public's happiness and comfort; this rule of living would surely result, if rightly applied, in careful consideration of the child's education. But what have we done? We have turned the whole subject of education over to the community. We have made it depend very largely on the result of an annual counting of noses. We have let it slip gradually into the hands of those veritable and inevitable children of government—the politicians. The American parent is indifferent to the character of the education of his children. The interposition of the community in what should be his affairs has not only made him indifferent to those affairs, it has made others indifferent that he is so. He pays his taxes. If the schools are poor the fault is at the school-board's door, not his.

I am dwelling long on this point, for it is vital.

The free public library not only relieves the idle and incompetent and indifferent from the necessity—would he have books—of going to work to earn them; it not only checks the growth of the tendency of the private individual to collect a library of his own, adapted to his own needs, and suiting his own tastes and those of his children; it also tends to lead parents to become indifferent to the general reading of their children, just as the free public school may lead them to be indifferent to their formal education. Certainly, fathers and mothers whose children use public libraries seem to care very little what and how much their children read. They conceal their solicitude from librarian and assistants, if it exists. Yet, if a collection of books in a community is a good thing for the community—and we seem to think it is; and if it is a good thing particularly for the children of the community—and we seem to think it is, then it is a good thing, not in itself simply, not as an object of worship, not as an

adequate excuse for the erection of a pleasing mortuary monument on the public street, but for its effect on young folks' manners and on young folks' brains. But to produce a maximum effect herein, to produce even a desirable effect, the right books must be put into the right hand at the right time. Can any do this rightly save the parents at least co-operate with them? But the public library is not an institution which the mother helps to support because she has come to believe in it; because it is her pleasure; because she can and does keep a watchful eye on its growth and its methods. It is part of the machinery of the state. She confides her children to its tender mercies in the same spirit with which her forbears confided in their king! And she does no more.

Furthermore, the essence of government is force. This essence remains whether the visible form be king or majority. It is open to question—I put it mildly—whether it is expedient to touch with the “strong hand” the impulse of a people to train with earnest thought their young, or the impulse of a people to give light to their fellows. People wish, in the main, to educate their children. Without this wish a school system, public or private, would be impossible. This wish is the vital fact; that the system is public and tax-supported is the secondary fact; the result, not the cause. People wish also, in the main, to give their fellows and themselves the opportunity for self-improvement. This wish is the vital fact at the bottom of the free, compulsorily supported public library. It is on these vital facts we should keep our eyes and our thoughts, not on the feature of compulsion. Work, then, for the extension of the public library from the starting-point of human sympathy, from the universal desire for an increase of human happiness by an increase of knowledge of the conditions of human happiness, not from the starting-point of law, of compulsion, of enforcing on others our views of their duty.

I have said enough in this line. To the observant eye our libraries are not altogether halls of learning; they are also haunts of the lazy. They do not interest parents in their children; perhaps they lead parents to be indifferent to their children.

But really, you say, all this is not our concern. You have had this thought—what is all this to us?—already and many times in

these few minutes. We find ourselves here; loving the companionship of books; desirous of extending the joys they can give to our fellows; embarked in public service, and active — none are more so; zealous — none are more so; honest — none are more so, in our work of making good use of books. Your modern librarian is in his daily life no disputatious economist, idly wavering, like the fabled donkey, between the loose hay of a crass individualism and the chopped feed of a perfectionist socialism. He is a worker. If there are things to be said which may add to the efficiency of his attempts to help his fellows to grow happier and wiser, let us hear them; and for this we have come together.

I have said these things, I am sure you will believe me, not with the wish to lessen the zeal of one of us in our chosen work. A moment's look at the case against us cannot anger us — that were childish; cannot discourage us — that were cowardly; it may lead us to look to the joints in our armor; it should lead us to renew our efforts. If the free public library movement be not absolutely and altogether a good thing — and he is a bold economist who vows that it is — how urgent is the call to us to make each our own library the corrective, as far as may be, of the possible harm of its existence. A collection of books gathered at public expense does not justify itself by the simple fact that it is. If it be not a live educational institution it were better never established. It is ours to justify to the world the literary warehouse. A library is good only as the librarian makes it so.

Can we do more than we have done to justify our calling? Can we make ourselves of more importance in the world? — of more positive value to the world? Our calling is dignified in our own eyes, it is true; but we are not greatly dignified in the eyes of our fellows. The public does not ask our opinions. We are, like the teachers, students; and we strive, like them, to keep abreast of the times, and to have opinions on vital topics formed after much reading and some thought. But save on more trivial questions, on questions touching usually only the recreative side of life, like those of literature commonly so called, our opinions are not asked for. We are, to put it bluntly, of very little weight in the community. We are teachers; and who cares much for what the

teacher says? I am not pausing now to note exceptions. We all know our masters and our exemplars; and I shall not pause to praise the men and women who have brought us where we are; who have lifted librarianship, in the estimation of the wise and good, to a profession, and have made it comparatively an easy thing for you and me to develop our libraries, if we can and will, into all that they should be, and to become ourselves, as librarians, men and women of weight and value in the community. I do not pause to praise them. They understand as well as I that approval and counsel cannot well come from me to them.

I have said that your library is perhaps injuring your community; that you are not of any importance among your own people. And these, you tell me, are hard sayings. In truth they are. I am not here to pass you any compliments. If for five minutes we can divest ourselves of every last shred of our trappings of self-satisfaction, and arouse in ourselves for a moment a keen sense of our sins of omission, of things left undone or not well done, I shall be content, and shall consider that we have wisely opened these Cleveland sessions. I would wish to leave you, here at the very beginning of our discussions, not, indeed, in the Slough of Despond, but climbing sturdily, and well aware that you are climbing, the Hill Difficulty. Others, I can assure you, will, long before our conference ends, lead us again, and that joyfully, to our Delectable Mountains.

Pardon me, then, while I say over again a few of the things that cannot be too often said.

Look first to your own personal growth. Get into touch with the world. Let no one point to you as to an instance of the narrowing effects of too much of books. Broaden out.

Be social. Impress yourself on your community; in a small way if not in a large. Be not superior and reserved. Remember that he who to the popular eye wears much the air of wisdom is never wise.

Coming to your chosen profession: Speak out freely on matters of library management; and especially, in these days, on matters of library construction. In recent years millions of dollars have been spent on library buildings in this country, and we have not yet a half dozen in the land that do not disgrace us. If we have stood idly by and not made our opinions, our knowledge, our experience, felt by

trustees and architects, then is ours the blame, and we are chief among the sufferers. Persuade architects and their associations, local and national—who ignore us because in our inconsequence they know they can—that they may wisely and without loss of dignity consult the professional librarian about the building he is to occupy. I say persuade them; I might better say compel them. To compel them will be easy when you have become of importance in the world. Even now it is not too soon to attempt to confer with them. You can at once make the beginning of friendly and helpful relations with the American Institute of Architects. But you must ask, not demand.

Advertise the A. L. A. and what it stands for. Help to broaden its field. Support heartily measures which look to a greater degree of publicity for it. Interest your trustees in it. Interest your friends, and your patrons and constituents in it. Be ready and willing to do your share of the work—and there's no end of work—that each year must be done to keep it properly alive and well in the public eye. Call the attention of your trustees to the difference between the efficient library, such as the A. L. A. advocates and strives for, and the dead-and-alive collection of books, still altogether too common where the A. L. A. spirit has not yet penetrated. Consider the contrast between the possible public library and the public library that is. If the causes for that contrast lie at your door, face them frankly and bravely, and strive to remove them.

Do not forget the Library Department of the National Educational Association, recently established. It gives you excuse, and it gives you cause, to take an interest, more active even than heretofore, in the introduction of books and library methods into school work, and to concern yourselves more than ever before with the general reading of teachers and their pupils. Impress upon teachers the value to them of your library. Persuade them, if you can, that to do their best work they must know well and use freely the good books.

See that your local book and news man is heartily with you in the work of spreading knowledge of the right use of books and in encouraging ownership of books in your community. If you come in contact with the bookseller and the publisher of the great cities do

what you can to persuade them that to join in the work of the A. L. A. is not only to benefit the community at large, but to help their own particular business as well.

Be not slow in giving hearty recognition to those who have, in the beginnings of library science, taken the first place and borne the burdens and made an easy way for us who follow. If, perhaps against some odds, a librarian, man or woman, is making an eminent success of some great city library, may you not properly send him, once and again, a word which shall signify that you, at least, are alive to the fact of his good work and are yourself encouraged and inspired thereby? Like words of approval you may well extend to the good men, outside of the profession proper, who have given their time and energy, a labor of love, to improve certain features of library work. I need not specify.

Interest in your work in your own community your local book-lovers and book-collectors and book-worms and private students and plodders and burners of the midnight oil. Get in touch with the teachers of literature in the colleges and schools of your neighborhood. Expound to such, and to the general reader as well, whenever you properly can, the difficulties and the possibilities of your calling, your conquests in classification and cataloging, and your advances in bibliography and indexing, and the progress in recent years of general library economy. Remember that all these things can be even better done in the small community, in the village library of a few hundred volumes, than in the large library of the great city.

Note the women's clubs, art associations, historical societies, scientific societies. Do not forget the private schools. In the small town you can gain without difficulty the good-will of the local newspaper. You can often assist the editor in his work, and lead him to help you in return. The clergymen in your town certainly care somewhat for the reading of their young people, and will co-operate with you in any intelligent effort to increase it and improve it. The Sunday-school libraries of your neighborhood are open to your suggestions, if you approach them properly. And the Y. M. C. and the Y. W. C. associations will gladly take from you advice and assistance in the management of their reading-rooms and their libraries.

None are so poor that they cannot give to others; and few libraries are so small that they cannot spare books and magazines enough to make a little library which may be sent out into a still smaller community and there do good service.

Do the business men and the business women, the active people, those who feed us and clothe us and transport us, those who have brought about in the last few decades the great increase in creature comforts for every one, do these business people take an active interest in your library? Do they care for you, or for your opinion? If not, is it their fault? is it that they are gross and dull and material and worldly; or is it that you, the wise librarian, know not yet how to bring your educational forces to bear on the life that now is? Our work is but begun so long as we are not in close touch with the man of affairs.

Remember that as you in your little town, or in your city, widen the sphere of your influence, grow to be a person of worth and dignity in the community, you thereby add so much to the dignity and to the effectiveness of the whole profession. If in a city or town near you there is a library which, in its general arrangement is not what it should be, which is but a dusty pile of printed pages or but a roosting-place for a flock of cheap novels, yours is in part the fault, and you are largely the loser. When a dweller in that town, one unacquainted with library affairs—and most are such—hears you alluded to as a “librarian,” he thinks of you as a person akin to the bibliothecal pagan who fails to manage the library of his

own town, the only library he knows by which he can measure your work. He is a “librarian”; you are a “librarian.” We wear the livery of our coworkers as well as our own.

Keep these thoughts in mind and you will see how essential it is, would our profession reach the standing we wish it to reach, would we make it everywhere an honor to wear our name, that every smallest library be an effective educational machine, and that every humblest librarian be an active, enthusiastic, intelligent worker. Yet some people in charge of accumulations of books must even now be urged to join the A. L. A.

See that your library is interesting to the people of the community, the people who own it, the people who maintain it. Deny your people nothing which the book-shop grants them. Make your library at least as attractive as the most attractive retail store in the community. Open your eyes to the cheapness of books at the present day, and to the unimportance, even to the small library, of the loss of an occasional volume; and open them also to the necessity of getting your constituency in actual contact with the books themselves.

Remember always that taxation is compulsion; that taxation is government; that government, among present-day human creatures, is politics; that the end of an institution may not justify its means; that a free public library may be other than a helpful thing. See to it, therefore, the more carefully that your own public library at least is rationally administered, and promotes public helpfulness.

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT IN THE LAST YEARS OF THE CENTURY.

BY JOSEPH NELSON LARNED, SUPERINTENDENT, BUFFALO LIBRARY.

IT is hazardous to attempt to look at things in our own time as they will appear to a philosophic eye in the future, looking back upon them in the perspective which time arranges, and under the double light of history which slants on them from before and from behind. But I shall venture the attempt, and anticipate, if possible, the more important judgments that will be

pronounced on the age which rounds our century to its end, by thoughtful historians of coming days.

What I think they will conclude, briefly outlined, is this: That the dominant processes of culture in modern civilization have been those which tend to what may accurately be called *the widening of life*; that in our century those proc-

esses have reached a climax of acceleration, so nearly exhausting the energies of mankind that little has been left for the *deepening* of the currents of life which ought to go with them; that the inevitable consequence is a flagrant superficiality in the character of the time. For the life of men, as we all know, is measurable in three dimensions: One given by its material conditions; another by the activities and the practical knowledge that make up so great a part of it; the third by those things of the spirit which hold all its nobility. What I mean, therefore, by the "widening of life" is a development of mankind in the two easier directions, of material well-being and practical knowledge, along lines which define a plane and not a solid of civilization. And I say that in these present days we are at or near a climax of thin and flattened culture to which the prevailing processes of social evolution in modern times have tended steadily.

The widening of life, which I have named as the great and dominant characteristic of civilization in modern times, may be said to have begun with the spread of Hellenism in the wake of the conquests of the Macedonian Alexander. Then it met and marched with Rome, and joined the following of Christianity, until it possessed a more spacious arena of peace, of social order, of commerce, of human acquaintance, of the interchange of knowledge, than had ever been opened before to the race of men for their growth. But when the empire of Rome was broken, and the new races out of the barbarous north took the making of European history into their hands, this movement of expansive culture suffered more than a check. The currents of life were shrunk into narrow channels again, circumscribed by the rude mediæval conditions of war, anarchy, feudal oppressions, ignorance, superstitions. How they won release at last, flowing out on vigorous new streams of inquiry and enterprise, to revived intercourse with the east, to impassioned study of the forgotten classics of Greece, to the invention of printing, to the finding of the Indies by the way of the sea, to the discovery of a new world in the west, to the settling of the now rounded and comprehended globe of the earth in its rightful place among satellite planets, in the universal procession of the stars, does not need to be told. To rehearse the familiar story of renaissance is no part of my purpose. What

I plan to do is to trace partly the course of some few among the differing movements in recent centuries that make up the distinctly expansive progress of civilization, and to show with what effect they have been precipitated on the present age with a great and sudden increase of velocity.

The first in time and always the most vigorous widening of human life has been on the lines of trade; and trade through all past periods has borne with it, in its vessels and vehicles, much more than its own merchandise. It scattered in the towns and cities of western Europe that seed of burgess independence which grew into the finally sovereign Third Estate. Unwittingly and without intention it has been, until these later times, the very servant of Freedom, to nurse its infancy and nourish its strength, wherever Freedom had birth and growth. The burghers of Holland and the commons of England drew alike from it the larger measure of their power. And the whole greatness of England, what is it, in the frame, but a mighty fabric of trade? What pillar of her empire is there that her merchants did not raise? And where is the considerable shore, from America to Australasia, to which the language, the law, the liberties, and some copy of the Parliament of England has not been carried with her plantations by English ships?

In times past, too, the commerce of the world was always the one great common school of mankind. They learned their geography in it, their natural history, and the better part of all their science. As said before, they bartered more than commodities with one another. Arts, economies, methods, experiences, customs, institutions, moral notions, ideas, were plentiful in the cargoes that went and came between strange countries and people.

And so, throughout history, until we come to its later chapters, the merchant-adventurer has been invested with a high and grave dignity by the vast importance of the many and potent influences that were kept active by his enterprise and supported by his wealth.

But now there is little left of those robes of dignity which commerce wore formerly, as the patron of political freedom and as the teacher of many things. The common knowledge of the world has outrun its teaching; the common condition of men in most lands has become superior to its patronage. It is no longer the merchant only who travels abroad, but all men

are travellers. What remains to be learned of countries or peoples is looked for from the scientific explorer; what remains of popular rights to be secured must be won by the artisan and the laborer. In a word, there is sheer nakedness to-day for the mercenary motives which actuate trade, and all there is of vulgarity in its spirit and aims shows bare to the sight. Shows, too, more conspicuously than ever before, because of its prodigious activity, and the vast compass to which it has spread. Neither economist nor historian has yet adequately represented the magnitude of the revolution wrought in commerce within our century by the employment of steam. With the fleetness of its carriers increased and their service cheapened year by year; with its great net of highways, woven finer and finer in the mesh, stretching fast over the whole habitable earth, and drawing all covetable things, little or great, into one common exchange; with the commodities of every continent gathered into every market, and each town made the seat of an endless world's fair—the new character developed in commerce and the new influences that proceed from it are not easily traced or described.

On one side there are marvellous effects almost wholly good. It is a plain fact that they have bettered beyond measure the circumstances of material well-being for civilized mankind. What were luxuries for the few they have cheapened into comforts and pleasures for the many; and by raising the standard of life in its physical terms they are helping to prepare it for a wholly finer tone. Let that large credit be frankly given. But against it we are forced to set greeds and vulgarities, in this steam-driven, electrified commerce of our day, which are disgusting and hateful. Having grasped all the exchangeable commodities of the earth, and trafficked to the uttermost extent of actual trade, it turns them now into gambling stakes, duplicates them in paper fictions, over which gamblers, who call themselves merchants and business men, howl like animals, in places which bear the honorable name of exchanges and boards of trade.

But this is not all. Within the honest realities of trade there is a clawing scramble of competition, fairly brutal in its temper, that will have a shameful aspect by and by, when it is looked back upon over one or two centuries of time. Our ancestors of the middle ages saw

something of its kind, perhaps, now and then, when their great market fairs were occasionally held, and when the cries from rival booths and the shouts of fighting apprentices, and all the hurly burly of an eager, mannerless, rough contention for custom deafened their ears. For us, the cries from the booths are put into advertising print, and the cudgel of the 'prentice is exchanged for the bill-poster's brush; but there is not much discoverable refinement in the change. And our fair goes on through all seasons of all the years.

Let us leave the thought of it, and turn back to consider those movements of political emancipation which ran parallel, for so long a time in history, with the lines on which commerce expanded. I shall not attempt to follow the steps of the people in their slow advance out of servitude, and from under harsh oppressions, to the state of personal freedom and effectual citizenship that prevails in most civilized countries to-day. I wish only to point attention to a much-overlooked fact in the history of the evolution of democracy, which is this: That all the acquisitions of political power made by the common mass of people, in the freest countries, down to a time not remote in the memory of living men, were more in seeming than in reality—or, rather, they were more potential than potent. What in fact the people at large had gained was a *footing* in the political system, from which it became possible for them to exercise an irresistible power of control whenever they found opportunity for organization and united action. But opportunities for union and organization were few and limited, so long as the means of communication were what they were until less than half a century ago. While the horse, in most regions, remained the sole carrier in service, for travel and correspondence alike, and while weekly journals and gazettes were the only disseminators of news, it was out of the question for an effective combination of citizens to be formed on any extensive scale, for a really independent enforcement of opinion or will in public affairs. In some small local circle, like that of the New England town-meeting, they could realize a popular government completely. But in the larger arenas, of state and federal affairs in America, and of national politics in Great Britain, their mere suffrage in the election of representatives was a half-futile, uncertain po-

litical power. They could not follow events closely enough, and they could not keep enough in touch with each other and with their political representatives, to have opinions much defined or currently influential. They were arranged more fixedly in two parties, the for and the against some broad generality of doctrine, than will ever be possible again. The power secreted in their ballots exploded now and then in revolutions, which threw one party out of the government and another in, and which pronounced a popular judgment, perhaps, on some mischief long after it had been done. But of *public opinion*, as a currently manifested, persisting, controlling democratic force in politics, there was little, and could only be little until the quick, tremendous agencies that now act on it and for it were recently created.

Thus democracy, as meaning an effective distribution among the people at large, in any considerable community, of the practical powers as well as the theoretical rights of self-government, never existed and was never possible before the present time. We are just in the stage of social evolution at which a real *popular opinion*, half-informed and unreasonable for the most part, but, nevertheless, a determined opinion formed by individual minds, appears wide-awake for the first time in human history—watchful of passing events and rising questions, and ready to act on them day by day, as they come. It is an absolutely new force in society, wholly different in kind as well as in degree from what passed for public opinion a century or half a century ago. For one of its first effects we discover that it is eating like an acid into the substance of the great old political parties of every democratic nation. In France, in England, and here in America their hard rigidity has been yielding to it within the last dozen or 20 years. They are undergoing dissolution, breaking into shifting factions, or making room for ephemeral experiments in new party organization, on issues that excite opinion for a day and then drop from the fickle public mind. The day of pure duality in politics is gone; we shall never know it again.

And it is not in politics only that these phenomena are found. The whole ancient structure of society is entering on the same process of dissolution in all its parts. The old apparent stabilities in it are everywhere giving

way, to be replaced by conditions of unstable equilibrium—the conditions, in fact, which Nature, in all her working, identifies with organic life, and which promise, therefore, a vital and enduring constitution of society for the future. But now we are experiencing those conditions at their worst. It is the fortune—some may say the misfortune—of our generation to have its moment of life bestowed in a chaotic and anarchic interval, between the solidity that was crystallized in the classes and parties and churches of an inorganic society hitherto, and the elasticity of living tissue that will unquestionably come into the substance of the social body hereafter. We suffer the anxieties of the loss of a static quietude in the one; we shall know very little of the vibrant and vivified harmony that must come with the other. On us falls the clash of social elements breaking out of their old combinations and seeking affinities for the new; the disorder of a crumbling labor system; the disturbed security of all provident capital; the shocks of increasing hostility between head and hand, or between schemer and toiler, or between purser and worker, in the industrial world; the persisting mischief of dishonest monetary projects; the continual eruption of mad social theories, anarchic and nihilistic, and the widening acceptance of more innocent and more dangerously delusive social dreams; these discordances, which belong to the early movements of a great and radical revolution in the constitution of society, have fallen especially to our lot, in the procession of the generations of mankind, and it is for us to be as wise and as courageous and as hopeful in the dealing with them as we can. They are an obvious, inevitable outcome of the perfected apparatus of communication, which facilitates agreements, understandings, combinations and undertakings of every nature, for mischief or for good, among men at the present day. If I have dwelt on the sinister side in my sketch of these phenomena of the time, it is because the sinister side is most conspicuous, receives most attention, affects most the feeling of our generation, and needs explanation most. We need, that is, to be made to see that what looks discouraging to us in the contemporary scene is but a phase of human history darkened by shadows that will surely pass, even as they came. If the old order in society is dissolved

by a fluid ease of intercourse and communication among its members, a new order will arise from the yet greater mobilities of a coming time. Many prophetic signs of it are already given to us. The ferment of altruism that is quickening in all social sentiment day by day will produce, at last, a very protoplasm for the social body, to be the seat of its life.

But there is one set of present-day conditions—the most disheartening, perhaps, of all—and one set of influences behind them—the most powerful of all—that yet remain to be considered. I have scarcely spoken of print and the press, among the servants of human intercourse which are widening life at the present day by so sudden and stupendous a stretch, because they need to be distinctly discussed. The confusing and overwhelming effects that pour from them now are so altered, in kind as well as in measure, from all former experience, that we cannot easily understand them or recognize them for what they are. Let us glance back along the lines on which the energy and range of written language have been expanded by the printer's art.

From the first movement of its lever, the press brought an immeasurable new force into modern civilization. Though its earliest service was rendered mainly to scholarship, in the diffusion of the classic writings of antiquity, it was speedily drawn into a more popular arena, and gave a voice to the appeals of religion, a weapon to theological controversy. The rapidity of its work at that early period is shown by the rapidity of the spread of the ideas of the Reformation, for which it was a vehicle that could not have been spared. Between Gutenberg's death and Luther's birth there were only 15 years; but the reformer found already an extensive commonality in most parts of Europe prepared to be reached and acted on by the printed tract and book. That the intellectual horizons of life were widened from that day is one of the plainest facts of history. Its skies, too, were lifted to a loftier arch, and it was made larger in all ways by energies which the new instrument of knowledge set free. For then, and long afterwards, the splendid work of type and press was earnestly done. Some kind of purpose—not always good, nor wise, nor true, nor wholesome, but something that had thought behind it, or fact, or imagination, or emotion—was in most things which received the printer's

stamp. The stream of print that runs down through the 17th and 18th centuries is rippled by few extensive shallows.

At the opening of the 19th century the book and the tract remained still the principal products of the press, and the custody or the conveyance of ideas was still its chief employ. It had already engaged itself in a lighter service, as the messenger of *news*; but that was a mere apprenticeship, not yet promising of much effect. So long as the gathering of news depended on the vehicles of the olden time, it was too slow and too limited a work to greatly stir the world. But when the speed of lightning and the energy of steam were offered to the newspaper press, that passed suddenly to the front of all the influences acting on mankind. School, pulpit, and platform were left behind it. The mastery of our later civilization, in the moral moulding of it, if no more, was soon seen to have been grasped by adventurers in a new commerce, which made merchandise of passing history and marketed the tidings of the day.

Meantime, the common school had been doing its work far and wide, and most men and women, of the leading races, had learned to read. That is to say, they had learned to decipher language put into print, or had learned reading as a simple art. But the educational use—the culture use—of the art was something which no majority of them had yet acquired. To make readers of them in practice as well as potentially, another agency was wanted beyond that of the school. The newspaper came apparently to supply it. Books and libraries of books were not yet equal to that mission. Perhaps it will always be impossible for book literature of any kind to push its way or to be pushed into the hands of the people with the penetrating energy which carries newspapers among them. At all events, the common school making possible readers, and the newspaper inviting them to read, arrived together at a conjunction which might have seemed to be a happy miracle for the universalizing of culture in the western world. The opportunity which came then into the hands of the conductors of the news press, with the new powers that had been given them, has never been paralleled in human history. They might have been gardeners of Eden and planters of a new Paradise on the earth; for its civilization was put into their hands, to be made what they

would have it to be. If it could have been possible then to deal with newspapers as other educational agencies are dealt with; to invest them with definite moral responsibilities to the public; to take away from them their commercial origin and their mercenary motive; to inspire them with disinterested aims; to endow them as colleges are endowed; to man them for their work as colleges are manned, with learning and tried capacity in the editorial chairs — if that could have been possible, what imaginable degree of common culture might not Europe and America by this time be approaching to? As it is, we are as we are to-day, disputing and striving to explain to one another a condition of society which shames all who think of it.

Nevertheless, during the first two or three decades of the modern news-market, as it took shape, we will say early in the forties, the influence of the newspapers was generally more wholesome than otherwise. Readers of them were made acquainted with things worth the knowing. The world and their life in it, as part of a great whole, were very genuinely and wholesomely widened to them, and by much more than the larger knowledge of it which they gathered from day to day. The widening of the sympathetic life of mankind, meaning thereby an increment and expansion of all the feelings which press men into closer and warmer relations, and prepare them for a truer understanding of one another, was the supreme effect upon them of the daily world-history which began to be reported to them in the period named.

But the time came when one arose, among the brokers of the news-market (it might not be impossible to give a name to him, and a place in American history), who made a discovery which proved nearly fatal to daily journalism in its influence and dignity. He discerned, that is, with low shrewdness, an unbounded possibility of degradation in human curiosity and vanity, as opening a great, vulgar, and profitable field to unscrupulous press-reporting. He was not left long alone in the ignoble field of his discovery. One by one the traffickers in news yielded to the corrupting example or they were driven by less scrupulous competitors into the ranks of the new journalism, until, to-day, we can count on the fingers of not many hands the important newspapers (in America, at least) that will give us real and clean *news*, and not force us to

strain some meagre pickings of it out of a sickening compound of trivialities, impertinences, vulgarities, morbidities, and worse.

Here and there we may still bow with respect before a newspaper over which the responsible Editor has kept his sovereignty. In most instances he has been deposed, and the irresponsible Reporter reigns in his place — master of the awful power of the Press — chief educator of his generation — pervading genius of the civilization of his time. Trained to look at all things, in heaven above or in the earth beneath, with an eye single to the glory of big type, he sees them in one common aspect. The great and the little, the good and the bad, the sweet and the foul, the momentous and the trivial, the tragic and the comic, the public and the sacredly private, are of one stuff in his eyes — mere colorings of a coarse fabric of life which time weaves for him to slit and to slash with his merciless, indifferent shears. And so, with little prejudice and small partiality between things high and things low, he makes the daily literature on which most of us feed and tincture our minds. It is a monotoned literature, and its one note is flippancy: the flippant head-line, the flippant paragraph, the flippant narrative, the flippant comment. To jest at public calamity, to be jocular with crime, to cap private misfortune with a slang phrase, or sting it with a smart impertinence; to be respectful and serious toward nothing else so much as toward the gayeties and the gaming of the world of fashion and the world of sport, appear to be the perfections of the art to which he is trained.

And no careful observer can fail to see that the degradation of the newspaper press is degrading most of the voices of the time. The shallow flippancy which began in journalism is infecting literature in every popular form. More and more the air is filled with thin strains of wordy song; but the great, deep-toned melodies of thoughtful poetry are dying out of it fast. Rhymers multiply apace, and the Reporter inspires them. They worship the god Novelty with him, and Apollo is forgotten. They exercise a frivolous, nimble fancy on tight-ropes and trapezes of metrical invention, in performances which are curious to behold and melancholy to reflect upon.

The Reporter inspires the romancer, too, and is training him to his own likeness in spirit and method; while the business manager in jour-

nalism commercializes his aims, by contracts for a serial "output" of literature, measured like a telegram or an advertisement, by the number of the words.

The art world, too, is infected with the irresponsible levity which had its genesis in the newspaper. Half of the men who paint pictures are doing so with scornful denials of any thoughtful purpose in their work. "Art for Art's sake" is the senseless formula of their contempt for the reverent service of imagination and reason which Art would command of them if Art knew them at all. They have crowded noisily into her temple, and their powerful patron, the Reporter, dubs them "artist" in his puffs and paragraphs; but they belong in reality among the color-mixers and craftsmen outside the temple door, who are artisans, not artists.

On all the commoner sides of its life there *is* a shallowness, there *is* a flippancy, there *is* a vulgarity in the present age which belongs to it peculiarly. Who can dispute the fact? And what is plainer than the cause we find in that precipitate, enormous expansion and acceleration of communication in the world which has occurred within our time, acting on civilized society, and most powerfully in America—in the three modes I have pointed out, namely: (1) an increasing excitement of commerce, following closely upon the loss from it of all its older vesture of educational dignity and adventurous spirit, producing for the time a mercenary nakedness which could not fail to be vulgarizing; (2) an abrupt plunge for the freer peoples from theoretical into actual and practical democracy, with an inevitable dissolving of their prior organizations, political, industrial, and every other, more rapidly than the new can be soberly formed to take their place; (3) the evolution of the modern newspaper and its speedy corruption, from the mighty servant of civilization, which it ought to be, into the busy pander of every vulgarity that the new conditions can feed.

But that is not the end of the story. These effects are but early effects—effects in their beginning, from great enduring causes, the operation of which is far from being exhausted in them. If the common mind of the age is trivialized and vulgarized by its newspapers and its commerce, it is being at the same time pricked to a new alertness, even by the worst

journalism and the fiercest money-making, and faculties are being wakened in it that will some day answer the call to higher uses. The influences which bear on it to that result are steadily gathering volume and weight. For powerful forces are even now working in the world to broaden life for those who will have it so, not superficially but profoundly, and not in mere sense and circumstance, but in consciousness and thought.

There are some ideas which, when they have got a setting in the mind, are like magnifying lenses to the eye of reason, clearing and enlarging its whole vision of things. The Copernican idea of the structure of the universe was such an one. By dispelling the human egotism of the views which put man and his habitation at the centre of creation, it opened new vistas to thinking in a hundred directions. The idea which Newton brought to light, of a unity of law in the universe, was another. The completer development of that idea in the doctrine of the correlation of forces, or the present day notion of Energy, is still another. But of all the emancipating conceptions which, one by one, have entered and possessed the mind of man, there was never one before that brought such liberations with it as came by Darwin's message to our own time. It is hardly too much to say that the full, free exercise of human reason on all the greater problems of life and destiny, whether personal or social, really began with the perception and apprehension of evolutionary processes in God's work. That has raised the thinking minds of our day to a summit of observation which was never attainable before, while eager Science brings hourly new helps to them for the expansion of their view.

It is true that this intellectual expansion of life is nowhere known to all men. Even so much of it as goes with vague glimpses of the working of universal law is still no common experience; while those who know it in its fullness are everywhere a few. But something from it is diffusing itself in the whole atmosphere of the age; something penetrating, stimulating, virile; something which most men are compelled to feel, whether they comprehend it or not, and to which the finer elements in them must respond by some sort of rally and growth. Of hopeful phenomena in the world, that one is the greatest of all. It indexes a new state of

the common mind, now cleared for the most part of old superstitions, and thus prepared for the receiving of light to dispel its old ignorances.

And what a wakening of moral no less than intellectual energies there is in our time for work directed to that end! A little while ago the steam-engine, the factory, the forge, the mine, the mart, represented about all the human energy that made itself conspicuous in the civilized world, excepting some occasional explosions of it in movements of religious and political enthusiasm and in raging outbursts of war. To-day it is not so. No little part of the interest, the ardor, the force, the ingenuity which spent themselves on those objects before are already going over into a very different field. We are seeing the rise of an enterprise in education which almost rivals the enterprise of mechanic industry and trade. Invention is half as busy in the improving of schools, in the perfecting of instruction, in the circulating of books; in the stimulating of reading and study, as it used to be busy in the making of machines. The diffusion of literature is left no longer to depend, like the diffusion of cotton fabrics or tea, on the mercenary agencies of trade. Half a century ago the free public library was created. For 30 years it has been worked over by one set of people, just as the steam-engine has been worked over by another set, and the electric dynamo by another. Its powers have been learned, its efficiency developed, in the same scientific way. Cunning variations of form are being wrought in it to fit all circumstances and to do its civilizing work in all places. It becomes a "Travelling library" to make its way into the villages and rural corners of the land. It becomes a "Home library" to reach the tenement-houses and purlieus of the city. It spreads itself in branches and delivery stations. It distributes choice reading in the schools to

broaden the teacher's work. It drums and advertises its unpriced wares like a shop-keeper avaricious of gain. It is taking up the eager, laborious, strenuous spirit of the present age, and wresting some large part of it away from the sordid activities of life, to give it unmercenary aims.

So books are being made to do considerably alone what books and newspapers ought rightly to be doing together. As a carrier in the spiritual commerce of the world, the book is not nearly so agile, so lightly winged, so Mercury-like as the newspaper can be; but when each is at its best how much nobler is the freightage of books!

As I have said heretofore, I rest my faith in a future of finer culture for mankind upon the energy of free public libraries in distributing good books, far more than upon any other agency that is working in the world. So far, they have but opened gates into the field of influence that is before them; but the gates are really swung wide, and the length and breadth of the field is fully seen, and the spirit that will possess it and work in it is eagerly alive. I speak soberly when I say that the greatest antagonism to be met and overcome is that of the vulgarized newspaper press. I say this with persisting iteration, because I am profoundly convinced that it is the fact which needs most at the present day to be understood. How to win readers of the general mass from unwholesome newspapers to wholesome books, or how to change the spirit of the common newspapers of the day from flippancy to sobriety—from the tone of the worst in social manners and morals to the tone of the best—is the gravest pending problem of civilization. The zeal and the energy of free schools and free libraries can achieve the solution of it, and there is nothing else that can.

THE NEW BUILDING FOR THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

BY BERNARD R. GREEN, CIVIL ENGINEER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

WHEN your president honored me with an invitation to be present at this Conference and address you on the subject of the Building for the Library of Congress he gave no intimation what feature of it would be the more interesting to you, and so, without training or experience as a librarian, as you must know, but rather as an engineer engaged for many years in the construction of large buildings, I am left to my own judgment. It is fortunate for me, however, that the subject in the abstract is so interesting to librarians, for this building is, in the most comprehensive sense, the largest, most monumental and beautiful, the best appointed, and therefore the grandest that the world has yet erected for the sole purpose of a library. Nevertheless, experience is likely to discover in it room for improvement, because its design was preceded by but few or no good examples of library architecture and apparatus on a large scale, and was therefore the outcome of theory and deduction rather than the application of established principles. Furthermore, at the beginning, Congress adopted only a general plan, in which many important details had not been worked out, and began the work without limit of cost or period of construction, or defining the character of the building. The consequence was a change of law and management, and a necessity for pushing on vigorously with the work to avoid further delay, narrowing the opportunity for that degree of thoroughness in the study of the plan in detail which its great importance demanded. The effort was, finally, to plan on general rather than particular principles, and afford the largest latitude for expansion and rearrangement in the occupation and uses of the spaces. The spaces are therefore left whole and undivided, with floors of ample strength, thorough illumination and ventilation, and feasibility for any interior alterations that future purposes may require.

The annual report of the Librarian of Congress, Mr. Spofford, in 1872, first set forth the urgent necessity for more room and better

conveniences for the already congested library, then — and still — located in the Capitol. The subject was immediately taken up by the Library committees of Congress, but not immediately disposed of. On the contrary, despite the unremitting efforts of many friends in Congress, the pressure of other business, lack of appreciation of the importance of the subject, failure to find advisers having their implicit confidence, the question of cost, the ever-present *bête noire* of the battle of the sites, and the embarrassing fact that the personnel of the committees changed more or less as new Congresses succeeded one another, wearily continued the disheartening discussion from 1872 to 1886 (14 years) before an act was passed looking to relief for the crowded library. Perhaps, however, this delay was a blessing in disguise, for it may well be doubted whether so satisfactory and magnificent a building as we now have would have been authorized and so successfully carried to completion had not Congress finally exhausted both the subject and itself beforehand, and thus become willing to place the building on a sure business footing and support it to the end.

Many plans were considered during that long period, but most of them were essentially alike in arrangement and capacity of building, the differences being chiefly in the style of architecture. By Act of April 15, 1886, one of these plans, in the Italian Renaissance style, harmonious with the Capitol, was adopted, the purchase of a site, consisting of two city squares east of the Capitol, one-quarter of a mile away, provided for, and a commission created to carry on the work of completing the plans in detail and constructing the building. This commission was composed of the Secretary of the Interior, the architect of the Capitol, and the Librarian of Congress.

The purchase and clearing of the site, which was covered by some 70 houses, consumed the first year, and the excavation and preparations for laying the foundation occupied the next. In the third year a part of the foundation was

laid. Mr. Smithmeyer, one of the architects who furnished the general plan, was employed by the commission as architect to carry on operations under their direction, but the work did not proceed satisfactorily, and finally, by Act of October 2, 1888, Congress repealed the original act, and substituted therefor one which placed the entire control and execution of the work in the personal hands of General Thos. Lincoln Casey, then just appointed Chief of Engineers of the Army. He was required to act directly under and report directly to Congress, and to prepare a new plan which could be executed within the limit of cost of \$4,000,000. After two and one-half years' delay, added to the 14 that had preceded, it would have been unwise indeed to have consumed one hour more of time than was absolutely necessary for the preparation of the new plan. The original general plan being very good if not perfect, without more ado we adopted it as a basis and worked up the \$4,000,000-plan called for, but took the opportunity to place with it before Congress a modification of the original plan, retaining practically its full dimensions, and giving a complete description and estimate of cost and time of construction. As was anticipated, Congress, caring less for the cost within a million or two than for a definite plan and estimate that could be depended on, adopted the larger plan at a cost limit, from that date, of six and one-quarter millions of dollars, and eight years' time for construction.

General Casey took charge October 2, 1888, and the two new plans were laid before Congress on December 1, with the full detailed report of the projects. By Act of March 2, 1889, Congress adopted the larger plan, whereupon the work of construction was immediately resumed. It has continued without any interruption to the present time.

The plan of the first story or library floor is given in the plate facing page 16.

The building is essentially of three stories, but there is also a commodious cellar, dry, well lighted and ventilated, under the entire structure. The four courtyards are down at the cellar floor level. There is also an attic story in each of the six pavilions. The stories are designated, architecturally, basement, first story, and second story, the basement being the ground floor. There are but two entrances. The main one is on the west front facing the

Capitol, and in two parts, the one by way of the stone platforms and steps leading to the first story, or library floor, and the other just beneath by way of the *porte cochère* entering the basement. The latter is approached directly by carriages under a broad, protecting archway. The other entrance to the building is at the east front, where a stone platform and other arrangements facilitate the receiving and shipping of freight. The west main pavilion is chiefly devoted to the grand staircase hall or *foyer* of the building. It contains only the librarian's office, some lavatories, cloak-room, the offices of custodian and captain of the watch, and, in the attic, some small rooms and a restaurant.

The great central feature of the building is the octagon rotunda, crowned by the dome, and constituting the public reading-room, 100 feet diameter in clear by 125 feet high. It contains the centre of administration of the library proper, and is surrounded by a spacious public gallery, the entrance and exit of which is by way of the main stair hall, independent of the entrances to the reading-room. The three inner wings adjoining the octagon on its north, east, and south sides, are devoted entirely to the storage of books, and are therefore constructed especially for and filled with shelving on the stack plan. This shelving extends from the basement floor level, in nine stories or tiers, to the roof.

As will be observed, the plan of the building is perfectly symmetrical on its east and west axes, the north and south halves being precisely alike. The exterior dimensions are 470 feet by 340 feet, and the area covered is $3\frac{3}{4}$ acres, exclusive of approaches and boiler-house. The basement story is 14 feet, the first story 21 feet, and the second story 28 feet high, floor to floor, all being multiples of the stack story height, which is seven feet. The main floors of the building thus coincide with the corresponding stack decks, and a door is placed at each junction therewith, north, south, and east. Lavatories are placed in the four corner pavilions and in the basement of the octagon.

The plan especially provides for the so-called central system of administration, or, that system whereby, as in the British Museum, the general readers make all applications and receive and return their books at the desk in the centre of the reading-room. In this building

the whole working portion of the library will be operated and managed from the central desk in the following manner :

The central desk includes the catalog counter and contains the attendants with all requisite apparatus for communication and transportation at hand, and an elevated station from which an observer may see every reader in the room at any time. The reading-tables are arranged around the central desk in three concentric circles. The inner one is a combination of reading-tables, settees, and standing writing desks, containing shelves for printed catalogs, etc. The other two circles of readers' tables are double-faced, permitting readers to sit on either side. Allowing four feet of width to each, 246 readers may be accommodated at one time, and more by seating them closer. This concentric circular arrangement is a uniform distribution of space, gives a more symmetrical appearance to the room, and places the greater part of the seats around the more quiet margin remote from the central desk.

Shelving is placed in the two tiers of alcoves surrounding the reading-room, subdividing them into spaces wherein special students, or readers desiring privacy and quiet, may be accommodated. 43 such spaces, each from eight to 10 feet square, are thus provided, and each reader therein may have a table and facilities for writing and extended investigation. A stairway in each of the eight main piers, which surround the reading-room and carry the dome, gives access to each tier of the alcoves.

The reading-room is lighted mainly by eight semicircular clerestory windows, each 32 feet wide, occupying the arched spaces between the main piers above the public gallery and above the adjacent roofs of the building. The sills of these windows are about 55 feet above the floor; admitting the light so high that they are more effective than skylights, without any of their evils. No shadows are cast in any direction, the amount of daylight is sufficient in the darkest days, and the reader's eye meets little or no direct light unless cast upward at an angle of 30 degrees or more.

The interior is yellow Siena and quiet red African marble up to the gallery, above which the color is lighter yellow, merging into ivory and gold in the vault of the dome.

The central desk contains a set of 24 pneumatic tubes, one to each deck of the the north

and south stack, four to the east stack, one to the librarian's office, and one to the Capitol. All carry messages swiftly and all but the last one are speaking-tubes of the best quality. The central desk will also contain the terminals of mechanical book-carriers to the north and south stacks, and be in telephonic communication with the librarian's office, the terminal station in the Capitol described below, and both houses of Congress. Wires are also laid, by means of which any electric communication may be had at any time with any part and between all parts of the building.

The construction of the building is monumental and permanent, being heavy and solid, and, of course, fireproof throughout. The exterior walls are of New Hampshire granite, the court walls of English enamelled bricks trimmed with Maryland granite, the upper portion of the octagon or main rotunda entirely of Maryland granite, the roofs and dome of iron, steel, and terra-cotta, the body of all walls of hard brick, and the floors of brick and terra-cotta. Many of the floors are carried by brick arches and vaultings with no metal incorporated. The remainder of the floors are carried by iron beams and girders of heavy proportions.

The only combustible material used is a carpet of boards laid on a solid masonry bottom in the office and working-rooms only, the window-sashes of mahogany, and the doors, which are generally of mahogany and oak. The readers' tables and central desk in the rotunda are of mahogany, and a wainscot of oak, as a decorative finish, occurs in the two special reading-rooms for members of Congress and in the librarian's office. All hall, museum, and lavatory floors are of tile or marble mosaic, and so is that of the main reading-room and the basement under it. The book-stacks are entirely of steel and cast-iron, with marble decks.

To librarians one of the most interesting features of the building is that of the book-stacks and the provisions made for their future extension. When the building was begun eight years ago, book-stacks, properly so-called, were small and few in number, and probably the best existing example was that of the Gore Hall extension at Harvard University. The fundamental principles were excellent and in its day, a quarter century ago, it was a greatly advanced design in storage shelving for books.

With this exception there were few or no precedents to guide in designing the best possible stack — one which would provide the greatest security, convenience of access and classification of the books, as well as maximum storage capacity — and it was necessary to investigate the needs of the librarian, the readers, and the books themselves. The increasing rapidity of growth of collections of books, and, for the Congressional Library, the broader function as a National Library likely to be assigned it, had also to be borne in mind.

The shelving capacity of the building was to be about four and a half millions of volumes. It appeared that the requisites of such a stack were:

1. Ready access to all the books.
2. Close proximity to and intimate communication with the reading and catalog rooms.
3. Accommodation of books of all kinds, sizes, and conditions in every sort of binding.
4. Arrangement and classification of books variable at will.
5. Shelves readily adjustable, removable, and interchangeable.
6. Shelf supports of plain and simple form, occupying least space, absolutely rigid and substantial, and easily removable.
7. Convenient and rigid support of books on partially filled shelves.
8. Conveniences for every kind of appropriate work in the stack, including the direct handling of books by searchers.
9. Passages at will through all parts of the stack in any direction, including ready vertical communication from deck to deck.
10. Thorough illumination by daylight.
11. Moderate and even temperature and good ventilation.
12. Perfect cleanliness and freedom from dust with absolute security from dampness.
13. Maximum capacity and compactness with capability of indefinite extension.
14. Fireproof.
15. All surfaces in contact with books permanently smooth and protected from deterioration.
16. Complete ventilation through the shelves with minimum of lodgment for dust or insects.
17. Protection from leaks in roof or overhead floor.
18. Light and simple construction, with minimum of dissimilar parts.

The design carried out in the building fulfils all these requirements.

I regret that I have at hand no adequate illustration of these stacks, and that I must endeavor to describe them without it. Their light, open, and cheerful appearance, liberal space with compact arrangement, bright illumination by daylight, simplicity, convenience of every sort, and, withal, their evident strength and stability can be realized only by a personal visit to the stacks themselves. The stacks are nine tiers or stories in height, with white marble decks, seven feet apart as before stated. The construction is such that, for all practical purposes, the stack could as well be of 20 or more stories without changing materially the bulk of the supports.

Good walls and a good foundation make a complete enclosure for such a stack, and if, as in the Congressional Library, the side walls may admit ample daylight, vertical openings of three feet in width, extending from the bottom to the top of the walls, will make excellent windows for the purpose. These windows are sealed permanently air-tight. Liberal electric illumination is provided for night use.

In the construction of this stack the element or unit is a steel column composed of a pair of 2 x 4 inch bars of T section set face to face and extending from a footing at the bottom of the stack to the top, with a one-half inch space between to admit, at each of the seven-foot stories, a skeleton flat cast-iron partition or shelf-support at either side to make a double-faced range of shelving. This cast-iron partition bears on its front edge a series of blunt teeth, and its back, near the column, a corresponding vertical series of short horns or projections, on which the shelf rests. It cannot accidentally slip forward or tip in any direction. At each deck level two horizontal lines of light iron bars, one parallel with the shelves and the other at right angles across under the deck, extend in both directions through the stack to the walls of the building, to which they are anchored. They are also connected to the respective rows of steel columns in the shelf ranges both ways. A thin steel diaphragm plate is firmly secured at the deck level in each bay of the shelving, and the decks consist of solid white marble slabs rubbed on top and polished beneath to reflect light, resting on and between the cross-bars referred to. The dia-

phragm plates and marble slabs, together with the inherent rigidity of the riveted connections of the steel framework, furnish all needful lateral stiffness without the use of upright diagonal braces or webs. The great advantages of doing away with these are, that two opposite shelves of any range may be set at the same level to receive a book too wide for one, and the shelves may all be removed in any bay in a moment to open a passageway through. To do this the shelves may be readily disposed of by storing them overhead in their regular supports. They may also be set close to admit atlases and other large books on the flat. Such things cannot be done with shelves that are not perfectly flat and free from sides or end-pieces like those in this stack. By removal of the shelves an additional aisle may be made through the stack in a few minutes, anywhere, through one range, two ranges, or the whole length of the stack. An open slit of five inches width is left in the deck along the front of every range, protected by a slight curb, serving to admit light from the side windows, free circulation of air for warming and ventilation, and convenient communication between the stories. Books may, when necessary, be handed upward or downward through these slits at any point. They are too narrow and too near the shelving for danger of stepping into them, and the liability of dropping articles through is very slight. If necessary they may be protected at any point by a covering of wire netting.

The shelf itself is composed of a set of parallel longitudinal bars attached to an end-piece which carries a pin and a notch for engagement with the shelf-support or partition. Its length is 38 inches and width 12 inches. The bars comprising it are about one-half inch wide, spaced about one-quarter inch apart, and are made of cold rolled sheet steel, very thin, and bent into an inverted $\cap$ section. They are highly polished and treated to permanently guard against rust. In general appearance the shelf is about the thickness of a thin board shelf and quite as flat, with no flanges, rough or sharp edges or points of any kind. It is also quite as light as a board shelf and much stiffer under a load of books. In fact it carries, without perceptible deflection, double the weight of any possible load of the heaviest books. It is removed and adjusted in its supports more conveniently and expeditiously than any other

shelf. This is easily done even without removing the books from it, for all that is required is to tilt up the back about one-quarter inch, draw the shelf forward about one inch, raise or lower it to its new position and push it back to place. No key, screw-driver, or other implement is needed for removing a shelf. You simply lay hold of it with the hands and move it in a moment. This open, parallel-bar shelf is naturally dust and vermin proof and a thorough ventilator for the books, while it furnishes attachment for the most convenient and efficient adjustable book-support yet devised. This book-support consists of a thin vertical plate of such size, say 5 x 7 inches, or larger, as may be desirable, having a short back brace from which depends a toggle passing between the shelf bars and catching underneath. A set-screw enables it to be permanently locked to the shelf when desirable, but it acts as an efficient stop without locking, and may be slid along the shelf at will. It is equally applicable attached to the shelf above and hanging downward. In this position it may hold the tops of tall books.

The skeleton form of the shelf-supports and the teeth in their front edges lend themselves readily to the attachment of movable ledger boards along the front of the shelving, on which to rest books, make notes, etc., while working in the stacks. By removing the shelves in any bay not only may a passage be made through the range but a desk, case of drawers, or closet may be placed therein, anywhere in the stack.

In every range, a board seat is placed in the window for the convenience of the attendants and others who may be admitted to work in the stack. In the middle of the stack is an iron stairway, and a hydraulic elevator of sufficient capacity for three or four persons, or one with a truck-load of books. By the side of the elevator is a shaft for the mechanical book-carrier, with its receiving and delivery pockets, and also the set of pneumatic tubes for messages and speaking communication with the central desk in the reading-room.

This stack was designed six years ago. The experience in carrying out its construction so far proves its merits that no other system of shelving is its equal, although several have been devised in the endeavor to compete with it in the market. All others are sheet-iron or tray constructions, some of them rickety, and all more or less inconvenient and lacking the

merits of this one. The stack and shelving in the Congressional Library is square, solid, plain, and, in every detail, the most appropriate and natural holder of books of every size, shape, and kind, and, all in all, one which librarians find no fault with except that it naturally costs somewhat more than less complete structures. It fulfils all the requirements that have been specified by librarians themselves, the lack of which in the past they have greatly lamented.

A mechanical book-carrier to accomplish more than the old simple dumb-waiter is a novelty because never before called for, nor have the conditions for its satisfactory operation existed in libraries heretofore. In this building accommodations for such an apparatus were incorporated in the foundation plans. The carrier will consist of a series of trays suspended between a pair of small endless chains, the route of which is downward from the central desk in the reading-room to the cellar, thence under the ceiling horizontally to the foot of the shaft in the middle of the book-stack, thence vertically upward to the top of the stack, passing through every story. The details cannot be made clear without a working model, but the principle of operation will be apparent when I say that the trays and the receiving and delivery slides may be likened to combs engaging with each other. The back and two ends of the tray are solid plates while the bottom and front are a set of long teeth whose ends turn upward to form the front of the tray. The action may be imitated in general by passing the bent fingers of one hand between those of the other. The machine is almost entirely automatic. To send books from any story of the stack the attendant places them on the toothed receiving-plate, throws over a short lever and goes about his business. In a few seconds one of the carrier trays on the continuously moving chains comes along, picks up the books, carries them to the central desk in the reading-room and lands them on a delivery slide, whence they drop into a padded box near the hand of the attendant, who may pass them at once to the applicant. The volumes are returned to their proper story, or deck, of the stack by a similar operation, the only difference being that, on depositing them on the receiving-plate, the attendant must set the lever at a number on a dial corresponding with the stack deck for which the book is destined. Failing to cor-

rectly set the dial number will result in no damage to the book but may cause it to be carried to the wrong deck. About 18 trays will be used, placed equidistant along the endless chains, which will run at a speed of about 100 feet per minute. At this rate a book starting from the lower deck of the stack will reach the reading-room in three minutes, or, from the top deck, in two and one-third minutes. The trays will carry anything up to the size of a quarto and a thickness of about three inches. Thus a single volume, or several, held together with a rubber band or other strap, may be sent in one tray, and very delicate books, pamphlets, or other paper matter may be readily handled by placing them in simple pouches or envelopes of canvas, leather, or other material as may be found convenient.

Intercourse and service between the central desk and the stacks is arranged for as follows: The applicant for a book may write out his ticket at the standing desk outside the catalog counter and hand it to the attendant, who may place it in the proper pneumatic tube carrier, which is shot in a few seconds to that story of the stack where the volume is shelved. The stack attendant receives the ticket, takes the book from the shelf, places it on the carrier receiving-plate and turns the lever. The carrier transports the book to the reading-room. Ordinarily not more than five or six minutes, including the time necessary to get the book from the shelf in the stack and start it on its way to the reading-room, will be consumed by the whole operation. Oral communication between the attendants at the central desk and those in the several stories of the stacks is had through the pneumatic message tubes by means of mouth-pieces provided. Volumes exceeding the quarto size will, of course, have to be carried by messenger, who may use the stairs or elevator, taking with him if necessary by the latter conveyance a rubber-tired wheeled truck for loads greater than he can handle in his arms.

Future growth and expansion of the library and all its co-ordinate branches have been so liberally provided for by the size and arrangement of the building that some surplus space will exist at first. The spaces already assigned by their special arrangement and construction are, besides corridors and lavatories, the main stair hall, public reading-room, three book-stacks,

two special reading-rooms for members of Congress, librarian's office, museum halls, two rooms for the custodian and captain of the watch, and a restaurant. The librarian proposes to occupy certain of the remaining spaces as follows: In the basement story, bookbinding, printing, stamping, and packing. In the first story, catalog-room, copyright-room, copy-right office and work, copyright archives and reserve, Toner collection, Smithsonian, special researches, and Washingtoniana. In the second story, exhibition of Americana, art-books, early printed books, and a gallery of the graphic art.

The warming and ventilating apparatus has been specially designed for the peculiar requirements of the several parts of the building, because the great rotunda reading-room, book stacks, museums, halls, offices, and working-rooms require each their own means of separate control. In general terms the object is attained as follows: Indirect radiation—that of warming the fresh air in the cellar and passing it up through flues to the several apartments—is almost wholly used. The radiators in the cellar are hot-water coils. The water is warmed by steam-heaters, the steam for which as well as for power to run the machinery is all made in a battery of boilers quite outside the building underground on the east front. Here also are the coal-vaults and steam-pumps. There will be no fires in the building excepting when made in any of three fireplaces in the two Congressional reading-rooms, which are, however, independently warmed by the regular apparatus. High-pressure steam is made alike in all the boilers (16 in number), of which as many may be used from time to time as the needs of the building require. The steam runs the pumps, air-compressor for the pneumatic tube system, and dynamos for illumination and power, and heats the water for warming the building.

Electric motors will drive the book-carrying apparatus and ventilating fans, of which a few are placed in the cellar, under the book-stacks and reading-room, for use in mild or very warm weather; more fans may be readily applied in these or any other parts of the building in future should they be needed.

Not only has a complete apparatus been provided for the internal service of the library itself, but the same has been extended to the Capitol, nearly a quarter of a mile away, through a subway, or tunnel. This is large enough for

a man to walk through, and extends in a straight line between the buildings from the middle of the west front of the library to a small room in the rear of the old Hall of Representatives. From a station in the basement story of the library, immediately beneath the reading-room floor, an endless wire cable will run through the tunnel to the terminal-room in the Capitol at a speed of 600 feet per minute, carrying two holders which will automatically pick up and deliver parcels up to the size of bound volumes of newspapers. Through the tunnel will also run the pneumatic message tube and telephone wires by which communication may be had at any moment between the members of either house of Congress and the librarian. By these means, with an attendant at the terminal station in the Capitol, members of Congress may communicate quickly and fully with the librarian, and promptly get such information and books as the library can afford, so that the library will be, in effect, nearer to congressmen in its new quarters than it now is in the Capitol itself.

The building is ornamented and enriched in all its principal halls and apartments by the works of the most eminent artists of the country. Twenty-three sculptors and twenty mural painters have been employed, and their works, together with the architecture of the interior, have a magnificent setting of the most beautiful and appropriate decorative painting in the country. All suitable spaces are filled with fitting instructive quotations and names of the world's greatest men in all departments of knowledge, genius, and human endeavor. A mere enumeration of the interesting and instructive architectural and artistic details would occupy too much time on the present occasion, but they are fixtures in the building, to be the permanent delight and edification of visitors for generations to come. In short, the whole structure, with all its appointments, is in every particular an example to be followed rather than avoided, for it is a success in economic building as well as in art and design.

Having had as its directing head, under Congress, a man like General Casey, untrammelled, of sound judgment, good sense, experience in this line of construction, and unremitting foresight and energy, the building will not only be completed within the time and cost originally estimated and fixed by law, but will be, if anything, more complete, especially in artistic en-

richment, than was expected. It was an altogether unusual undertaking so accurately to plan and estimate in advance a monumental work of architecture, engineering, and art of such magnitude. But there is no insurmountable difficulty preventing competent architects and builders from estimating within five to ten per cent. the sum of money that will cover the reasonable cost of any proposed building if its character and plan be carefully made and determined on beforehand. Most of the uncertainties and disappointments as to the cost of buildings, of whatever size or importance, arise from incomplete consideration and preparation before the estimates and work of construction are entered upon, trusting to future study of what are assumed to be minor details but which often prove to be serious matters, ending irretrievably in disappointing results. It pays to look at the end from the beginning.

It is expected that the coming session of Congress will make needed provision by law for the occupation, custody, and care-taking of this great building, including a general outline at least of the extended organization which its plan and proportions demand. Such legislation should have been had at the last session to be in season for prompt removal to the building. The subject was taken up at that time

but laid over. Furniture must be provided, for none is included in the law for the construction of the building. But the most adequate plan for the occupation and use of the building will not be discovered and realized at first, for its magnitude and resources are not yet, nor will they for some time to come, be fully comprehended. Such a spacious, convenient, flexible, enduring, and magnificent storehouse for knowledge, ranking far above anything of the kind that has ever been constructed, will not be fully utilized until some experience has been gained within it, and the librarians and educators of the country outside of it have, through Congress, formulated the functions and organization of what should be, in the highest and noblest sense of the term, the National Library of the United States.

The building will be completed and turned over for occupancy next winter, and this means that nothing whatever will remain unfinished or standing over to await further study or recuperation of exhausted funds, as often happens with large buildings, but every inch of it will be absolutely completed, leaving nothing for successors to do. How best to use it for the greatest benefit to the country and mankind will be the interesting problem of the immediate future.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS AND THE PROPOSED NEW PUBLIC DOCUMENT BILL.

BY F. A. CRANDALL, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN making an informal report of the first year's doings of the public document office, I wish to say at the outset that this office has from the day of its opening been over-pressed with routine work, overwhelmed with a correspondence which has long averaged more than 100 letters a day, and constantly in contact with problems of legal interpretation and library practice for which no precedents were to be found. It began with a staff whose members were all strange to each other, and necessarily strange to the work, for it was work which had not before been done.

What has been accomplished under these circumstances it is my purpose very briefly to inform you.

I have a few statistics to offer, and as statistics are dull reading, I have put them first that they may be the sooner done with.

The organization had been in a measure completed, and active work begun about July 1, 1895. During the 12 months from that date to June 30, 1896, the receipts of books were as follows:

Accumulations from various Gov't depts.	252,602 vols.
New works from Gov't Printing Office..	143,091 "
Exchanges from libraries.....	31,321 "
Catalog copies, over	60,000 "

Making a total of about 490,000 publications received. Of course these were not all bound volumes. Many of the copies for cataloging were pamphlets or even leaflets, such as bills, resolutions, circulars, etc. These are received

from all the publishing bureaus, and also in duplicate from the Printing Office, and an exact account of them is not kept, but I am confident I have understated rather than overstated their number.

During the year the number of volumes distributed was as follows:

To depository libraries.....	105,170 vols.
To libraries other than depositories.....	66,016 "
Specific works distributed according to law on the order of members of Congress.....	13,580 "
Sold.....	3,563 "
To departments to complete files, etc....	1,134 "

Making a total of 189,463 volumes distributed during the year.

That these large sendings have been well made we have considerable evidence. We have no complaints of books arriving in bad condition or not arriving at all. I do not think we have ever lost a book, except a few *Congressional Records* in a railroad wreck, which we were able to replace. There have been some few complaints of books being missent, but these have been due to incorrect addresses furnished to us, and as all our sendings are by registered mail, we have been able in all cases to trace and deliver the missent volumes. All of these cases and those of imperfect books returned and having to be replaced I do not think amount in the aggregate to a score.

Of the books distributed to libraries other than depositories, about 14,000 went to the list of so-called "remainder" libraries. This is a new list created under a provision of the printing law of 1895, and is of considerable importance. Congress orders editions of public documents for its own use in round numbers, so many thousands or hundreds for the Senate and usually double the number for the House. As, however, no one member has more claims than another, it has always been the custom to divide the editions so that each senator should have an equal number, and a similar division has been made of the House editions. A fractional number, which belonged to nobody, had always, until the passage of the new bill, been left over. These fractions, amounting in the aggregate to many thousand volumes for each session of Congress, were either wasted or became the perquisites of the employees in the folding-rooms of the Senate and House. (These folding-rooms, by the way, are so named because nothing is ever folded there. They are the rooms where the books distributed by

senators and representatives in Congress are wrapped for mailing and where an account is kept of how many books are due to each member.)

There is an impression throughout the country that a member of Congress can get as many books as he likes, but this is quite a mistake.

A ledger account is kept with each senator and member, and he cannot get a copy beyond his equitable allotment except by trading with some other member or by buying.

Under the law an attempt is made to utilize the fractional remainders for the use of libraries. It is provided by section 68 that the fractions shall be sent to the Superintendent of Documents for the use of libraries to be named by members of Congress, and also for sale. I have asked each senator and representative to name one library for this purpose.

Of course there are never enough books in our fractional allotment to supply one to each Congressional district, but there are so many members who fail to designate even one library, that those which are designated will get a copy of nearly every document that is supplied to Congress.

We have now a list of "remainder" libraries numbering over 240.

There is one advantage these libraries have over the depositories, and that is that the books they get are in cloth instead of sheep, and are frequently furnished months and even years before the same books in sheep are ready for shipment to the depositories.

We have in addition a new list of libraries to receive the publications of the United States Geological Survey. About 600 of these have been designated by members of Congress, and to each of them has been sent a collection of 135 publications of the Survey prior to 1894. These libraries are to be supplied with geological publications regularly hereafter.

As the depository list has increased during the past year from less than 420 to about 450, we have now with the 250 "remainder" libraries and the 600 geological libraries about 1300 libraries to which we furnish regular supplies of public documents in greater or less number. I should prefer to be exact in my figures instead of saying "about" so often, but the fact is, the figures are subject to constant though not violent fluctuations. New designations by senators and representatives come dribbling in,

sometimes two or three a day, sometimes only two or three a week. There is, in addition to these, what is known as the "Congressional designated list of 1887," for geological publications, which numbers about 500, but has in it an uncertain number of duplications that need to be removed. This list was formerly supplied by Dr. Ames, but there is no explicit provision as to who shall supply it hereafter.

Besides the libraries regularly on our lists we have had dealings with many others, of which of course we have a record, but time and help were lacking to make it up for use in this paper. We have received some duplicates from these unlisted libraries, but I think we have supplied to them more than we have received. The number of volumes so distributed I cannot now state, but I know we have helped every library listed and unlisted, whenever it was within our powers and our legal limitations to do so. We are always glad to be able to help the big and rich libraries in filling their sets of documents, but the poor and needy libraries, which want the whole sets, we are even more glad to be able to assist. It is not often that we can supply absolutely complete sets of anything, but we have often succeeded in coming near enough to it to elicit very grateful thanks.

A part of our work which to me seems of decided importance has been our ability to supply various missing records to government departments. It is stated among people who are knowing as to documents, as an axiom, that not a single government department or bureau has a complete set even of its own publications. I presume this is not true of the more recently created offices and commissions, but I have little doubt that it is true as to all the older ones. We have furnished hundreds of volumes to such important government offices as the Bureau of Statistics in the Treasury Department, the Records and Pension Division of the War Department, the Indian Office in the Interior Department, the National Museum, etc. The books they wanted have heretofore been in existence, but until they were taken out of vaults and crypts and assorted and classified they were not available and might as well not have existed.

Perhaps the most serious undertaking in which we have been engaged, certainly the one which has taken the most of our time and

given us the most worry, has been the preparation of the first annual catalog of public documents, or "comprehensive index" as it is called in the law. I think the law is in error in using that title, as the work is properly a catalog. It doesn't index any public document, but it catalogs all those of the 53d Congress and up to the end of the fiscal year 1895. Though the work has been difficult and tedious, I think it has not been fruitless. I feel a good deal of confidence that we shall produce a catalog that will be intelligible not only to librarians, but to the general public, members of Congress included. In insuring this general intelligibility I flatter myself that I have been of some use to the trained catalogers who have been in immediate charge of the work. As I could not by any possibility pass myself off as a trained cataloger, I represented the next most important party in interest, namely, the ignorant public, for which function my qualifications were indisputable. As the work advanced the various knotty portions were tried on me, on the theory that if they could be made clear to me they would be clear to anybody. It was a sort of trying it on the dog, only in this case if the show was too much for the animal there was an opportunity to amend it. If I couldn't be instructed up to the standard of the work, then the standard was simplified till it came within my limitations, and I finally feel safe in saying of the catalog that I can understand nearly all of it. Never before perhaps was the ignorant public brought into such close relations with a difficult piece of cataloging, and the best results are hoped for from the combination.

I am well aware that the catalogers often wished the ignorant public at the antipodes or farther, and the ignorant public more than once became considerably inflamed over the Chinese puzzles which the catalogers set for him to crack his teeth on; but the compromises which resulted from these strained relations I believe finally were accepted by both parties, if not with enthusiasm at least with resignation.

Statesmen and others untrained in the intricacies of cataloging who may have occasion to consult the work may pay me any compliments they choose for my share in making it intelligible to the most ordinary comprehension.

I am happy also to be able to report that, so

far as the ignorant public is concerned, no symptoms of an attack of that unnatural appetite for catalogs which librarians are said to acquire have yet appeared. On the contrary, I think I may venture to report that an antidote for this unnatural appetite has been discovered. If any librarian feels it coming on, I can recommend a twelve-months' struggle with a public document catalog as extremely likely to effect a permanent cure.

I have brought along a collection of page-proofs, so that all who choose may examine them. We have strong hopes that this work will be found more convenient and available than any previous catalog of public documents. We are so confident it will be so that we are pushing the work on the next number of this catalog on the same plan. The next volume will carry the work along a year further, namely, to the end of the fiscal year 1896.

The first number of the so-called "consolidated index," provided for by the law of January, 1895, is partially complete in the manuscript, but awaits the making up of the volumes of the "Congressional reserve" to have the volume-numbers filled in on the cards. This, also, precisely speaking, is a catalog, but as it will take the place of the various and varied so-called indexes that have since the 30th Congress appeared in the front of the volumes of Congressional documents, and will be used by people who have always known those lists as indexes, it was thought best to retain the old name. By doing so the "comprehensive index" required by the law can be known as the "Document catalogue," and the "consolidated index" can be known as the "Document index," which will be a convenient distinction. The index will be practically a finding list for Congressional documents proper, and will not treat of public documents in general.

With the comprehensive and consolidated indexes and the monthly catalog on its hands, the small cataloging staff of the office has its hands sufficiently full, but it is better off than some other branches of our work, which have been stripped almost bare in order to give the catalogers all possible help. The fact is, the work of the office has proved to be greater in every direction than had been anticipated, and it will apparently be necessary before long to make more extensive provision for it.

The monthly catalog of public documents,

which the promoters of the printing bill estimated would be a leaflet of four or eight pages, grew in the May number of the present year to 79 pages, and the 18 numbers issued to the close of the fiscal year aggregated 702 pages. The first number of the Document catalogue (or Comprehensive index) fills 645 pages, and the check list issued last year is 220 pages. The work already done on the Document index (consolidated index, so-called) and on the second number of the Document catalogue will bring the catalog work of the office for its first year very nearly to 2000 pages. Besides these there have been reports, bills, resolutions, circulars, etc., turned out, on which much time and thought have been expended, though they may not count for much in an estimate of the work produced during the year.

The library work of our office, which has included the receipt and shipment of exchanges and the care and arrangement of all the duplicates, has been prosecuted under discouraging circumstances. While the work has been enormous, the number of assistants at the disposal of the librarian has been small, and they have been mostly without experience or training. That so much has been accomplished under such conditions is to me a constant surprise. A reference library containing 12,000 documents has been established, and a quarter of a million duplicates have been assorted and made ready for immediate exchange or sale. These books, belonging to the government, which before were as unavailable and as useless as if they lay at the bottom of the Potomac, have been restored to use and are as accessible and as available as the day they were printed. It does not seem to me an extravagant estimate to say that this government property thus reclaimed is worth a half-million dollars. The printing and binding alone cost at least that much, while the cost of compilation is beyond computation.

Probably because it thought we hadn't enough to do, Congress at the recent session passed a resolution directing us to make the distribution of the new compilation of the messages and papers of the Presidents for its members. The edition is 21,000 and the number of volumes will probably be five. Each senator makes 73 designations and each representative makes 37. We have found this distribution a vexatious piece of work. Duplica-

tions, wrong addresses, and like obstructions have been numerous, but by transcribing the lists on catalog cards and alphabetizing them I think we shall be able to make an accurate distribution.

An important and most interesting part of our work has been that of finding all sorts of publications for all sorts of people. We have had applications, it would seem, for pretty much everything the government has published since Washington's inauguration, and certainly for many things that the government has never published. I had a letter only a few days ago from a citizen of the booming West, who wanted to know how he could get copies of the "Statesman's year-book" for 1886 and 1896 without paying \$3 apiece for them. Another wanted a copy of Coin's "Financial school," either in the *Congressional Record* or otherwise. Such applications as these are easily disposed of, but to all applications for copies of public documents, no matter how old or obscure, we give our most serious attention. In the absence of adequate catalogs, and in view of the violently eccentric methods of publication adopted by some government officials, this looking up old documents is a work of extreme difficulty. When people have some idea of what they want it is bad enough, but many merely want to know if the government has ever published anything on a given subject, and if so, what and when, and how to procure it—especially how to procure it free. Mr. Spofford, in his *Forum* article on the government as a great publisher, said that the lack of catalogs of public documents was supplied by five or six living indexes in Washington. Besides those in Washington, there was one of these living indexes—very much alive, in fact—of whom he did not know, away off on the shores of the Pacific, whose services we were fortunate enough to secure, and to her expert knowledge is largely due the fact that even in its first year the document office has been able to be helpful to a very large number of persons.

It was a severe disappointment that we were unable to secure the passage at the recent session of Congress of the bill to improve the printing and binding methods of the public documents. Those methods are now just what they might be expected to be in view of the fact that they are devised by the heads of about 120 publishing bureaus, few of whom have had any

training in bookmaking, and each one of whom acts for himself with little or no central supervision. What was proposed in the new bill was to establish by law a few broad general principles, recognized by librarians and publishers as sound, and to which no publishing bureau would have much, if any, difficulty in conforming. It was not intended to permit any fads or disputable propositions to enter into it. From the general and exceedingly cordial support given the bill by those interested and most competent to judge of its quality it is inferred that it hit the mark aimed at. It passed the House by unanimous consent, and there was no opposition to it in the Senate, but the members of the Senate committee to which it was referred were too busy with other matters, which they thought more important, to take it up. The Senate was well disposed toward it, and I have no doubt it would have passed by unanimous consent if it had been reported from committee. The librarians of the whole country came up to the support of the bill most nobly. I was able to send to the chairman of the Printing Committee, which had the bill in charge, as a first instalment, letters from 26 states, and many more were subsequently sent. The bill had the support of all the parties in interest—authors, printers, and librarians. Never before, I think, has a printing bill commanded such a general support. Every known document expert in Washington, including Dr. Ames, of the Interior Department, Mr. Rhees, of the Smithsonian Institution, Librarian Spofford, of the Congressional Library, Mr. Benedict, the Public Printer, Capt. Brian, the Foreman of Printing, and Mr. Smith, the superintendent of the Senate document room, gave it emphatic support. I have no doubt of the passage of the bill at the next session, and I believe its effect will be radical and widespread. I consider it only a first step in the improvement of the document service of the government, but a very important one. I also sent five resolutions, designed to perfect the printing bill of January, 1895, to the Printing Committee, but no action was taken on them, and I did not attempt to push them, thinking it wiser to confine my efforts to the bill for the reform of printing and binding methods. These resolutions will all be presented again next winter, and by beginning early I hope to secure their passage.

I cannot say, however, that I find the prospect of another lobbying campaign exhilarating. On the contrary, I have found that days and nights of dancing attendance on very dignified gentlemen who are very much interested in their own affairs and very little in mine are days and nights most dismally spent.

If I were to attempt to draw a literary moral from the first year's experience of the document office, I should probably ask to be credited with doing something to offset the flood of fiction which is giving librarians so much concern. Possibly, however, the inundation of public documents of which our office has been the fountain-head may lead to results more terrible than fiction-reading.

Suppose the depository libraries should rear up a race of Gradgrindian readers who would demand nothing but facts—who would burn the midnight oil over the Statistical abstract and the Nautical almanac, and dissipate on the finance report and the census bulletins! Would not this be more demoralizing, more devastating than the 90 per cent. fiction record which so many of our librarians seem to look upon as the extreme calamity? It is true there are some influences at work to check the Gradgrind tendency. We send out a good deal of pure imagination ourselves in the *Congressional Record* and some other publications, and some of the librarians help us by stowing away the more matter-of-fact public documents where nobody can get at them. An illustration of how well they do this was supplied a short time ago by a young man who came to Washington from the Missouri Valley to get a certain document which was needed in connection with a public enterprise in which he was enlisted. After he had made known his errand I asked him if he did not know that in his own town was a public depository to which all such books were sent. Yes, he said, he knew it, and he had been there to see about it. He had no doubt the desired document was there, and the librarian had been very kind and had offered to help him find it, but after looking at the Alplike heaps in which the public documents were stored he made up

his mind that the quickest and cheapest way to get that book was to travel 2000 miles to Washington and back after it. So he came to Washington, and in two minutes after he made known his errand he had his book, and said he was then certain he had taken the best means of getting it. He did not blame the library which heaped its public documents instead of shelving them—nor do I. He said the library had no room to shelve the documents. It appreciated them, kept them from damage, and hoped some day to have a new building in which it could give them adequate accommodation. Doubtless many other libraries are in the same quandary as to public documents.

Mr. C. A. Cutter has proposed, and the Massachusetts Library Club has approved, a proposition that instead of the present depository method, by which everything published is forced upon all libraries alike, the plan be adopted of authorizing each public library to ask for such documents as it needs and can care for, with the understanding that all such requests shall be complied with as long as the supply of books holds out. I give my own very hearty approval to this plan, but it can only be carried out by legislation. I do not believe it would require many, if any, more books than the present method, and certainly there would be much less waste of books than now, because, as each library would receive only what it wanted, all could be depended on to care for and make useful those that were received, whereas now many libraries are compelled to receive numerous documents which they do not want and for which they have no use, and they care for them as anybody might be expected to care for that which was forced upon him. Under Mr. Cutter's plan it could in a very few years be found which sorts of public documents were in most demand, and the size of the editions published could be gauged accordingly. Then it would not so often be the case as it now is that books which few want are printed in great numbers, while others for which there is a most eager demand are in most limited supply.

THE APPRAISAL OF LITERATURE.

BY GEORGE ILES, OF NEW YORK CITY.

A GOOD many of us can well remember the typical American museum of 20 years ago. It contained many valuable specimens drawn from the realms of earth, air, and ocean; it had received rich gifts both from science and art; but truth to tell, the general effect of it all was not alluring. An atmosphere of dreariness repelled ordinary mortals; it was reserved for the lonely and athletic student to find any meat and drink on the shelves and perches. To-day how great the contrast as one enters the National Museum at Washington, the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy at Cambridge, the Museum of Natural History at New York! How has the marvellous change from dulness to fascination come about? Why is it that instead of perfunctory glances at minerals and skeletons we are held by one vivid interest after another, until we regretfully hear "All out" from the janitor at the close of day? Much must first be credited to the discoveries and inventions which in the past 20 years have so largely increased the capital of all museums. Much also has been done by giving collections a reasoned order; by connecting as a series all the forms intermediate, let us say, between copper ores and copper ingots; in bringing clearly to view such genealogical trees as those which show the horse descended from a creature about the size of a fox, and which bid man reluctantly acknowledge his poor relations of the cavern and the glade. But an improvement equal to any other in importance consists in labelling every specimen fully and clearly instead of bestowing only its name. Indeed, Professor Goode, Director of the National Museum at Washington, goes the length of defining a museum as a place where instructive labels are accompanied by well-selected specimens. It would seem that the curator, taught by the inquiries of the visitors to whom he has displayed his treasures, and desirous to win attention at every step, has taken the printer for his partner and sought to say once for all everything that may awaken the visitor's interest, to answer every question he is likely to ask. It is only eyes already instructed that pause before a mineral ticketed "bauxite from Georgia," but

if instead of a ticket we read a label which tells us that bauxite is the basis of the aluminium manufactured by electricity at Niagara, the specimen at once comes home to our business and bosoms. A crystal, a bone, a bird, a bit of ore, however remarkable it may really be, cannot say so, for it is dumb; we owe gratitude to the man who enables it to tell its story, to explain whence it came, what it is good for, what it means in the great scheme of interpretation which the philosophers are building deeper and higher for us every day.

While the museum has been advancing in wealth and in methods of making that wealth available to the plain people, the public library has borne its fraternal company in the service of popular culture. As the museum has been enriched by new gifts from the explorer, the discoverer, the inventor, so has the public library received new capital in the provinces of art and science, scholarship and research, history, poetry and romance. And better modes of classifying its treasures, new and old, improvement in every detail of administration, have brought the public library to vastly extended usefulness, and notably in the co-operation more and more intimate which has in consequence sprung up between it and the museum. Not so many years ago teachers thought it great gain to have their books enriched by illustrations. To-day, whenever desirable, the teacher may pass from mere illustration to the thing illustrated—the piece of armor, the spray of coral, the gleaming crystal, which invites examination in the museum. It is the keynote of the new education that impressions should be immediate, that to rest satisfied with a word when one should know the thing the word is about, is to allow the usurpation of substance by shadow. Often words become charged with their whole meaning only when we see and handle what they describe and discuss. And there is further reciprocity between the museum and the library; when the label-writer has more to tell than a label gives him space for, he can refer by title and page to the book where his story is continued to the end.

It is with regard to this matter of the label

that the methods of the museum are distinctly in advance of those of its neighbor and friend, the public library. The curator has put so much light and color into his ticket that the dry bones of his cases move and live; the librarian still shows a catalog of mere titles which the ordinary reader runs over much as he might a series of tickets in a museum 20 years ago. Great treasures are undoubtedly heaped up on the shelves before him, but he takes the fact very largely upon trust. The veins of gold here and there are mixed with how much dross, with how much ore not worth the mining! Beside each other are the few genuine books of all time, the volumes which interpret these and bring them down to date, in much greater profusion the mere echoes and dilutions of weighty writing, together with a preponderant mass of downright rubbish. Each book bears nothing more or less than its title: in the unrespecting catalog no authority is before or after another. Francis Parkman and a catchpenny historical compiler touch elbows; George Eliot and Mrs. Southworth kiss each other. Of course, readers in choosing this book rather than that have some reason for their choice. But is the reason a good one; shouldn't there be an opportunity to choose with only the best reason possible? Perchance some friend has recommended the chosen volume; but is the recommendation informed and trustworthy? Or it may be that a laudatory advertisement has directed the choice; and how much reliance can be put on advertisements? Or, what occurs oftenest of all in the literature of instruction, the reader interested in birds, or African exploration, or electricity, takes the book most recently published, or which bears the name buzzed loudest in the public ear. But is it always the best book that latest leaves the press, even in the realm of travel, or exploration, or science on the march? Is it always the most popular author who best deserves popularity? One small class in the community has the good fortune always to have the best reasons in reading and studying its books. The young men and women in our colleges and universities enjoy manifold advantages of training, discipline, and culture; among all these benefits one of the chief is their economy of time and attention through reading and studying only the best books. Thanks to the guidance of trustworthy judges they can shun the output of

the mere mechanic of the pen; one first-hand work of authority judiciously supplements another; the defects and errors chargeable even to the greatest writers are pointed out, and where a subject is brought down to date in periodicals, the best of these are indicated. Popular education will receive an immense impulse when guidance of this kind is rendered the plain people, not only by the university professor, but by everybody else able and willing to give it. That guidance should come, I think, in a brief descriptive, critical, and comparative note, duly signed and dated, to be carried within the book itself, and also to follow the title-card in the public library. Thus the reader, looking up French ceramics, or entomology, or taxation, might see the relative values of all the books on these subjects in the library as fully as if there stood at his side a company of men and women of authority on pottery, insects, or public finance.

And here we begin to see why it is that the museum specimen has long had its label, while the library book still lacks its note. The label is descriptive purely; the book-note must be not only descriptive but critical, and so ably and justly critical as to commend itself to every informed and fair mind. By so much as sound judgment exceeds simple knowledge is the task of the literary evaluator more difficult than that of the label-writer. One advantage, however, rests with the appraiser of literature, his notes can serve at once hundreds of public libraries and thousands of isolated students; a label-writer's circle is bounded by his own halls and galleries.

In canvassing this proposal among librarians it has been objected that if notes of the quality we seek were to be had, the proper place for them would be in bibliographies, and not on cards in the library catalog. But if they were concealed in bibliographies, I fear that few readers would take the trouble to find them there, whereas a reader could not very well dodge a note if it stood before him in the catalog. Agur prayed that his food might be convenient for him.* Let us for this occasion vary Shakespeare a little so as to have him say,

"How oft the sight of means to do good deeds
Makes good deeds done!"†

Library machinery as it stands is excellent, as machinery; it can take on a new character and

* Prov. xxx. 8.

† King John iv. 2.

a fresh usefulness when its mechanism includes the best available judgments of the stores committed to its keeping—judgments put directly into the hands of the public, not at so much as a single remove from the youngest or poorest person who enters a library door.

How, it may be reasonably asked, are we to get all this suggested characterization in the vast and swiftly extending field of literature? Of course, by piecemeal; there is no other way. Let but one department of history, or biography, or applied science, be worthily passed upon, and we shall soon know whether the public wishes to have our plans carried further. History perhaps might be taken up for a beginning. Historical literature grows steadily in popular favor; it unites entertainment and instruction, while it naturally and pleasantly introduces the questions, social, political, and economic, which to-day knock at the door of the veriest recluse of us all. At first a thousand titles might suffice, let us say in American history, the choice to rest with an editor-in-chief, having a corps of assistants, each responsible for a definite part of the whole. The notes should have such telegraphic conciseness as not to burden their cards with a needless word, while omitting nothing which the reader or student should be told.

At this point I may say that "The list of books for girls and women," published by the American Library Association last year, is to have two of its departments expanded as a bibliography to be published next March. Music will be enlarged by Mr. Krehbiel to comprise some 270 titles; Fine Art will be amplified by Mr. Sturgis to the extent of 550 titles; the book will be addressed, not to girls and women particularly, but to readers and students generally. It is hoped that its notes may commend themselves to librarians for use on catalog cards.

On the threshold as we are of this business of expert annotation, it is impossible to proceed without a subsidy, but we should resolve not to

go very far if the work does not approve itself to the public as worth paying for. We must try to educate the people to requiring the aid we can render them, and in this regard nothing is freighted with more promise than the alliances that are springing up between the public library and the public school. Every teacher who educates a boy or girl in the genuine attractiveness of good books, in the necessity of choosing books intelligently, is doing good beyond the reach of praise. Yet if the public, after a fair exemplification of the aid we proffer, still refuses us fair wages, then let us gracefully retire to some more fruitful corner of the vineyard.

Success in this matter of literary appraisal will turn, I think, upon the adoption of common-sense methods. We should first of all endeavor to form a partnership with some leading publisher. The publisher who thrives by catering to ordinary folk, to the world that now is, has a quiet, steadying outlook that we can profit by. There is always a risk that your subsidizer, who ignores commercial considerations, will run off on some theme dear to his heart and dear to few other hearts. The scholar deep in folk-lore, or linguistics, is apt to imagine that thousands, instead of units, are eager to pursue the researches which to him are as the breath of life. It is well to qualify opinions as to what people ought to want, by cool perceptions of what they really do want, as proved by what they buy and pay for. Indeed, it would be well to accept no aid of money, or time, or manuscript, that is not fully subject to the direction or approval of this Association's publishing or editorial committee. The public library has waited a long time for its note of guidance; let it wait as much longer as may be necessary to get that note in sensible form, of the right quality, and first of all with respect to such books, humble or great, as best deserve the golden scales we are trying to set up.

TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

BY JOHN THOMSON, LIBRARIAN, FREE LIBRARY, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

WE shall not be prepared to dispute that stale bread is wholesome eating and probably preferable to new bread, but we all take the new bread when stale and new are both on the table, and if there is a succession for several days of stale loaves only, we change our place of eating and seek more pleasant nooks for feeding. So in like manner readers will for a while devour the books on the shelves of a library, but if they are not renewed the scheme fails, readers fall off, and books and dust enter into a permanent alliance, and the shelves are left untouched by young and old. Hence, one of the essentials of library work, if good results are to follow, is to provide a change of books. They need not necessarily be new books in the sense of being just published, but they must be books not already perused by the users of the library.

This fact has led most librarians to see the necessity and advantage of varying the books by addition to their number or by changing them, and in places not yet ripe for a regular free library the want of funds to provide for the necessary purchase of enough volumes has induced much weighing of methods, and in result led to the establishment of travelling libraries and home libraries.

In no other way, yet thought of, has it been possible to effect so much toward attaining the primary end of the American Library Association and library work in general. By these means books are being brought most closely to the people, and we are enabled to do much to further the object designated by the motto of our Association, namely, "To provide the best reading, for the largest number, at the least cost."

This matter is receiving a great deal of attention in many directions, and an increasing interest is being shown on the subject in several of the States.

It may be well to recite the work accomplished, although the system of travelling libraries is too young to admit of much being recorded as yet by way of statistics or results.

The work achieved in New York State is

familiar to all members of the American Library Association. It is only four years since the New York State Library began to send out its libraries of 100 volumes to various parts of the State. The addresses of Mr. W. R. Eastman at the Lake Placid Conference in 1894, and of Mr. Frank A. Hutchins, reprinted in the Wisconsin Supplement of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, contain almost all that can be usefully stated upon the subject. It is sufficient now to mention that sections 14 and 47 of the New York "University Law" contain all the legislation that affects travelling libraries. Pursuant to the powers contained in section 14, the Regents may co-operate with other agencies in increasing educational opportunities and facilities by, amongst other things, lending necessary books. By section 47 the Regents are empowered to lend from the State Library (duplicate department), or from books specially bought or given for this purpose, selections of books for a limited time to any public library in the State under visitation of the Regents, or to any community not yet having established such library. The sum of from \$7000 to \$8000 a year is given by the State for the purposes mentioned in these two sections. The first travelling library went out in February, 1893, and as many as 15,358 volumes were taken out by readers in six months, thereby giving an average of 290 readers to each 100 volumes.

Two points deserve special notice. The first is, that if permanent and increasing usefulness is to be attained the duty must be entrusted to bodies having the charge of library work. The New York system came into existence after a long trial of the district library plan, in which system she was copied by Massachusetts and 21 other States. Those in charge of schools and general educational methods have a work in hand so gigantic in its proportions that they cannot properly enlarge their burden of labor by working on any supernumerary lines. To carry on schools is a task great enough to tax the powers of the most energetic. If travelling libraries are to succeed they must be controlled and managed by a special commission or some

existing library board, whose energies can be devoted to that one business only. The experience of New York has been found to be the experience of all other States. Out of this grows the remark that district libraries and all such institutions are found to die or go to pieces from the want of means of renewal. The district libraries become an old story — their readers soon use up the material possessed by them and the libraries become stale.

The second point is that district libraries will of necessity remain very much what they are in their inception. That is not so in the case of travelling libraries. These last throw off their birth form and lead to the establishment of free libraries. In other words, infants become grown men. Many proofs exist to enforce this statement. In New York State, for instance, Plattsburgh has a duly chartered public library. It began by using one of these travelling libraries, and Mr. Eastman reports that six other public libraries have been chartered in that State within the past year which were commenced by petitioning for travelling libraries. As the result, 25,000 books have been read by residents in villages and small settlements, who would otherwise have been without such literary nutriment.

The Legislature of Michigan, by bill passed January 15, 1895, appropriated an annual sum of \$5000 for the purpose of loaning books from the State Library at Lansing, on methods similar to those used in New York State, and a further sum of \$2500 for the purpose of travelling libraries, to be sent to communities where no local libraries exist. The Michigan libraries number 50 volumes each. Mrs. Spencer informs me that the most interesting and satisfactory results have been obtained from the system. The libraries are sent out to the following organizations: 25 taxpayers in any community; Granges; Reading clubs and circles, and to Associate libraries. The results have exceeded the expectation of the projectors of the movement. The libraries, with one or two exceptions, have gone to small towns or farming communities, and (adds Mrs. Spencer) the reports received from the librarians have been in every case enthusiastic and commendatory. The first library was sent out May 14, 1895, to North Star, Michigan, and since that time libraries have been sent out to several other places. The goodly number of 30 finding lists of 50

volumes each have been compiled by Mrs. Spencer.

A valuable work was established by Miss Alice Chandler, of the Town Library, Lancaster, Massachusetts, under the auspices or in co-operation with the Woman's Education Association at Boston. In this instance 25 books was the number decided on for each library. The work will increase as funds allow, and the report of Miss Mary Morison in the 23d annual report of the Association, published in 1895, gives a most interesting account of the establishment of the system, and shows how important results are attainable with perseverance and a sound method at starting. Pelham, in Hampshire County, first accepted a travelling library, and the work covers a circuit of seven towns which use these libraries.

The General Assembly of the State of Iowa on April 8, 1896, passed a law providing for an extension of the use of books through the system known as travelling libraries, to take effect July 1, 1896. By this act it is provided that when no "Associate library" exists, and whenever 25 resident taxpayers petition therefor, collections of books may be lent to any college, school, university extension centre, Chautauqua circle, literary society, reading course, study club, or other association, on same being duly approved by the Board of Trustees of the State Library. Mrs. Lana H. Cope, the State Librarian, has made all the preparations possible by preparing rules and forms, certificates, applications, etc., which will enable her to start the libraries with the commencement of the coming year; and as soon as the trustees reconvene, after the summer recess, they will formulate the necessary rules and regulations. Mrs. Cope will aim to shape the Iowa libraries on the plan of existing travelling libraries, looking to make them an educational means and supplementary to other libraries rather than as a means to supply the reading wants of the citizens of the State.

In Minnesota a bill was introduced into the Legislature in the early part of 1895 without result, but it is hoped that it will be reintroduced and become law before long.

The State of Montana may be mentioned as a convert to the travelling library system. In March, 1895, a law was passed appropriating \$1000 for 1895, \$500 for 1896, and \$300 annually

thereafter, for the creation of circulating libraries throughout the State of Montana, and the purchase of books in libraries to consist of 100 volumes each. The appropriation has failed to be paid, and we must hope for a better issue in the future.

In Wisconsin there is no law on the subject of travelling libraries. In the meantime, Mr. Stout, a trustee of the Mabel Tainter Memorial Library, of Menomonie, is developing "a library within a library" in his home town. He has beneficently started with 16 libraries of 30 volumes each, which are to go from place to place for periods of four months, to such communities as shall form an association with a president, secretary, and treasurer, and who shall pay a dollar a year to cover transportation. It is noticeable that in this particular instance the work is being executed in co-operation with decadent and other small home and school libraries. The authorities of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission are very hopeful that this good work of Mr. Stout may be extended so as to carry its benefits throughout the whole State. In Wisconsin, within six months of the establishment of Mr. Stout's system of travelling libraries in Dunn County, three hamlets have taken the preparatory step of establishing reading-rooms in connection with their new libraries.

In Pennsylvania the system has only been adopted within the last three or four months. In order to pave the way for a satisfactory development of the work, the Board of Trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia has started a series of libraries to go round in the less accessible outskirts of the city. 1000 volumes have been put into these travelling libraries, and numerous applications have been received from police and fire stations, and from residents of the outlying parts of the city, which still heavily tax the powers of the Board in this direction. We are fortunate to have the assistance of Mr. Montgomery, one of our trustees, who looks after and develops this work. Beyond what has been already mentioned, I may state that applications are continually reaching the Trustees from various parts of the State,

asking for the privileges of these libraries. In three instances presidents of companies employing large numbers of men have undertaken to build suitable rooms and provide at their own expense some person to take charge of the library as soon as the travelling libraries can be extended to them, and it is proposed to apply to the State at the next legislative meeting in 1897 for an appropriation to enable this work to be carried out on a satisfactory scale.

If the desired end of bringing books within the reach of the greatest number is to be fully accomplished a great development of the home library system will have to be gradually adopted in cities and towns to which the travelling libraries might be unsuitable.

Miss Mary S. Cutler, the vice-director of the New York State Library School, has published an admirable address on the subject, which she delivered on January 10, 1896, before the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club. The home library idea was evolved not by a librarian but by Mr. Charles W. Birtwell, the secretary of the Children's Aid Society in Boston. The work has been developed in Boston, and a better example of its value is not to be found. Mr. Soule brought news of the movement to the New York State Library School, and the students from that institution have started libraries in Brooklyn, Chicago, Philadelphia, Syracuse, Knoxville, Tennessee, and they will be started by them this fall in Rochester, Washington, and Pittsburgh.

The problem before us all is, how best to establish travelling libraries in States where they are at present non-existent, and to extend their usefulness in the States where they have been set on foot, and still further how to make provisions of books for study clubs, such as are constantly formed on subjects like Shakespeare, Agriculture, Currency, and for ship-board, army stations, police, fire, and telegraph stations, in which last boys are much better occupied in reading biographies, histories, historical novels, fairy-books, and Robinson Crusoe, than in playing chuck-farthing, or the amusements that are possible for idle hands.

THE FUNCTIONS OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES AND THEIR
RELATIONS TO LIBRARIANS.

BY FREDERICK M. CRUNDEN, LIBRARIAN, ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY.

CERTAINLY nothing can more conduce to the advancement of the library cause than a clear conception by trustees of their proper share in this great work and a full understanding by trustees and librarians of their mutual relations.

For the rather delicate task of presenting this subject from a librarian's point of view before an audience of trustees, I can, I think, lay claim to one qualification. During 17 out of my nearly 20 years as a librarian, I was under the most cumbrous system of control that was ever invented to worry and hamper an executive officer and impede the progress of an institution. The board that had the immediate management of the library was composed of sixteen members, nine appointed by the Board of Public Schools from its own members and seven elected annually by the life members of the library. This election took place in May; the representatives from the school board were appointed in November; so that the library board changed its composition twice a year. There is more involved in this than appears in the mere statement. Unless special effort was made, very few votes were cast at the spring election, so that it was easy for any one with a grievance to vent, a grudge to avenge, or an axe to grind, to muster 40 or 50 votes and thus elect a ticket that in no way represented the choice of the 4000 life members. But this was not all. Few of the school board contingent took any interest in the library or attended the meetings of its managers; yet every important action of the board of managers had to receive the approval of the school board. Constant watchfulness and active lobbying by the librarian could not at all times prevent detrimental, and occasionally ridiculous, decisions by the body that ultimately controlled but knew next to nothing about the library. This statement shows, I think, that I have had some experience with trustees. It is also a good illustration of *how not to do it* in the management of an institution.

But there is another circumstance that fits

me, in some measure, to speak for my brothers in the profession: I have no grievance to air, no complaint to make, no suggestion to offer of any desired change in the relations between my trustees and myself. Their attitude towards me is one of the heartiest appreciation, the fullest trust, the most generous confidence. Whatever I may say, therefore, is entirely free from any personal bearing or egoistic bias.

There is naturally some variance of opinion on the subject; and I may not succeed in voicing the sentiments of even a majority of my fellow-workers. But they are here to speak for themselves and are free to take issue with me. From my own experience and observation, combined with confidences received from others, I shall try to say what I think the occasion calls for and especially those things which librarians personally affected might not like to say in public.

In Mr. Soule's paper, read before the Fabian Conference, he puts first among the qualifications of trustees "Sound character." Now, it is a fortunate fact—which accounts for the rapid development of libraries in the past and augurs well for the future—that library boards have generally—almost universally—secured the services of men of the highest character.

In every community the position of library trustee is looked upon as one of dignity and honor, and is readily accepted by the best citizens, men of ability and culture and the most genuine public spirit. The place has little attraction for the class of men that form so large an element of other public bodies, not excepting school boards. Therefore the baser does not drive out the better; and there have been in library boards very few of those scandals that disgrace municipal administration and lead superficial minds to despair of popular government. There is, indeed, an inspiring, uplifting, altruistic element in library work that captivates every one who is susceptible to such influence. Referring in my last report to the industry and general good spirit of my staff, I

said : " Its work has reflected the singleness of purpose and perfect harmony of action that has characterized the board and exemplifies the power of a common aim — and that a high one — to call forth the best that is in people and to secure from them a loyalty and faithfulness that does not pertain to the average of the world's service."

Mr. Soule's list of qualifications of trustees reads as follows :

- Sound character ;
- Good judgment and common sense ;
- Public spirit ;
- Capacity for work ;
- Literary taste ;
- Representative fitness.

I accept the list without change. No one of the qualifications can be spared. Though representative fitness is, perhaps properly, put last, it is important that the various elements of a community should feel that they are represented in the conduct of a public library. It is a source of satisfaction to them and of strength to the institution.

Mr. Soule amplifies somewhat on these requirements and gives a good reason for putting " literary taste " low on the list, stating also his preference for " general culture and a wide range of reading " to the " knowledge of the scholar or the specialist." In this I heartily concur. Indeed, my contribution might be made up entirely of extracts from the three papers read at the Fabyan Conference. There is nothing I have to say that was not as well, or better, said at that time. Mr. Green's paper, especially, is an admirable presentation of my theme. But a restatement is called for ; and I shall present the subject in a different way and on some minor points, perhaps, take a little different position.

I am supposed to speak from the librarian's standpoint. But if that means that the librarian has one point of view and the trustees another and somebody else — the community, say — a third, I object to the limitation. I don't want to take my stand where I can have but a partial light on the picture. Though Mr. Soule and Dr. Learned were supposed to speak for the trustees and Mr. Green for the librarian, I find they all occupied practically the same position. There is, indeed, properly but one point of view. There is but one question to be consid-

ered : How — *i.e.*, by what qualifications on the part of trustees and librarian and by what relations between them — can the end for which the library was established — *viz.*, the highest service to the community — be most surely attained ?

Libraries, like all other institutions, are built on a foundation of money ; and money is further required for their maintenance. To secure this is the first work of the trustee ; and it remains his constant care for all time. The raising of funds, whether from public or private sources, is properly the trustees' function. When the library is once established, the librarian, by popularizing the library, will necessarily render indirectly efficient aid in enlarging its revenues. Librarians often furnish direct assistance by personal canvass, by newspaper appeals, or by giving or getting up lectures and entertainments. The librarian should, of course, turn his talents to anything that will most help the library ; but if he is called upon to raise money, it is a diversion of his energies from their proper sphere. This field belongs to the trustee ; and in it he works from the vantage-ground of disinterested service.

But the trustees are first in time as well as in authority ; and their first act, after the money for the establishment of the library is in sight, should be the appointment of a librarian. Having secured the most competent person that can be obtained, they should take all future steps that relate to the technical details of library administration, including planning of building or arrangement of rooms, in consultation with him. By so doing they will evidence their possession of Mr. Soule's second qualification, Good judgment and common sense.

Closely akin to the raising of funds is their management. This, of course, is exclusively the function of the trustees. Good or bad management may make or mar the fortunes of an institution. I have in mind two libraries that illustrate this difference. One of them owes its fine building and its solid status largely to the energy and financial ability of one director and its efficient organization chiefly to the good judgment, public spirit, and capacity for work of another ; while the high place it holds in the estimation of the community is due to the fact that during the half-century of its existence it has always had for directors men of eminently sound character. In all that time it has had very few men of literary taste ; and being a class

library, representative fitness has not been considered.

Over the disbursement of funds and their accounting, the trustees should, of course, keep a close watch. They should adopt every safeguard against the possibility of misappropriation and, in addition, should put both treasurer and librarian under bond. In the case of a public library a treasurer may be dispensed with by leaving the funds in the city treasury. The librarian's bond should be from a trust company, and should be paid for by the library.

In determining the purposes for which disbursements shall be made, the librarian should be called into consultation. He should be able to present to the trustees all the varied needs of the institution, and should express his opinion as to their relative importance. With this information before them, the trustees can come to a wise decision. If the librarian has established a reputation for good judgment—in other words, if he has proved himself thoroughly competent—his recommendations should, and will, have great weight. While he should freely state his opinions and his reasons therefor, he should not urge them unduly, for he must remember that not he but the trustees are responsible for the management and expenditure of the library's funds. And in all things he should cheerfully acquiesce in the decisions of the board and carry out their instructions with a hearty loyalty, even when the course decided on runs counter to his judgment. This goes without saying; it is of the very essence of organization. He rightly expects the same spirit of subordination and co-operation from his assistants; and only by their thorough execution can it be determined whether the orders in question were judicious or not. Wise measures may fail through a half-hearted enforcement.

In all matters of administrative detail the librarian should have full freedom and authority—so far as he desires and is willing to take the responsibility. If, however, he has a good board he will be glad to consult the proper committee and get the benefit of the members' judgment. But, as I have said, this should rest with him. If he is sure of his ground he should have full power to act.

While it is, of course, for the trustees to determine the general policy of the institution,

they will err in not counselling with a competent librarian—as they constantly err in not having a librarian whose counsel they value.

That the librarian may be fitted to act in all things as the adviser of the board, and that this may be the constant relation, he should be present at all meetings of the board and its committees. He should, in my opinion, be *ex-officio* secretary of the board and all its committees. Only by listening to the discussions of the trustees can he thoroughly comprehend the spirit, as well as the letter, of the instructions he receives. He will thus, as Mr. Green puts it, "catch the spirit that animates the board and become aware of the general principles which it desires should underlie the administration of the institution." On the other hand, I hardly see how a board can wisely decide on numerous questions without information which only the librarian can supply. The regular participation of the librarian in the deliberations of the board helps to give continuity and consistency, as well as judiciousness, to its decisions. The board is a changing body; the librarian is, or should be, a permanent officer, thoroughly acquainted with the history of the institution, its past policy and the results of previous experiments in administration.

I cannot take time to state all my reasons for holding that the librarian should be *ex-officio* secretary of the board. Perhaps it will be conceded that if he is present at all meetings, he may as well act as secretary. This does not offer the least obstacle to holding an occasional meeting without the librarian's presence.

Conversely, if the trustees are to be efficient counsellors of the librarian, they should post themselves on the details of administration. This applies especially to the president and to the chairman and members of the administration committee. Their judgment and business capacity cannot be applied unless they understand the problems to be solved.

A knowledge of administrative methods aids the trustee in the performance of another of his functions, which is to sift and weigh public criticism. The trustee may be indifferent or over-sensitive to public opinion. He is generally, I think, inclined to the latter extreme. He should be quick to investigate any reasonable complaint and at the same time should defend the board and the librarian against mere captiousness. He should deem it his

special duty to stand between the librarian and the attacks of ignorance and personal malice.

Mr. Green thinks it too much to expect the trustees to consider, of their own motion, whether the increased experience and efficiency of the librarian does not call for a larger salary. I think it would not be amiss for the board to anticipate a request of this kind from the librarian. Both parties feel better about it. And when the need of retrenchment arises, trustees do not give the best evidence of their administrative capacity and resource by immediately scaling down salaries. This sometimes amounts to an enforced contribution from the employees to the book fund.

A very important feature of library administration is the appointment of assistants. There can hardly be any question that this should be left practically to the librarian. He cannot justly be held responsible for results unless he has the choice of those who are to aid him. The formal appointments should, of course, be made by the board.

I speak from fortunate experience in saying it is a great advantage to a librarian, and materially lightens his responsibilities, to have a book committee composed of persons of literary taste and extensive reading. But at best the task of selecting books for purchase must devolve mainly on the librarian. It is one of his most important duties. He best knows the deficiencies of the collection and the wants of the public. He has the reviewers of two continents serving him as an advisory book committee, and he can always call on local specialists for aid in choosing the best books in their respective departments. It is, of course, for the trustees to determine on what lines the collection shall be developed and what character of books shall be admitted or excluded.

That I might be assured I was not looking at this subject through colored glasses, I have taken pains to discuss it with three or four friends, who are, or have been, library directors of another library, one of whom was for some years an assistant in the same library. I found no appreciable variance of opinion among all of us. I asked one of them to dictate to his stenographer what he had said to me. The following statement, sent in response to my request, fairly presents the views of the other directors. The writer was a library di-

rector for a number of years; and after reorganizing the library and rehabilitating its finances, he has turned his attention to building up the university of which he is president. He is one of the ablest, broadest-minded, and most successful business men in St. Louis.

"Replying to yours requesting briefly my views of the functions of library directors and their relations to librarians, I would say that, of course, a board of trustees are supposed to have those qualifications which will enable them, first, to grasp in a broad way the mission of the library. They are supposed, of course, to be men of influence in the community, who can secure the necessary funds for the purpose, and wisely invest and disburse them. Reduced to detail, I should say that they should give most of their time either (if it is a public library) to influencing the public to secure necessary appropriations, or (if it is a subscription or private library) to securing funds for endowment. They are presumed to be men of such executive ability as will insure their wise selection of a librarian. In connection with the librarian, utilizing his information as to the detail of library work, they should develop a system that will give the public the best service at the least expense. They should be more competent than the librarian to pass upon all matters of investment and disbursement of funds, except for book purposes, but should expect that the librarian will keep himself fully informed as to the books to be purchased. In a general way, a board of directors is supposed to be familiar with every detail of library work involving the disbursement of money, except, possibly, the purchase of books, and they should have a sufficient *general* knowledge of that to prevent the librarian's drifting, as he sometimes does, into the development of some special taste or literary inclination. If the librarian is all that he should be, it seems to me that, he being in constant touch with the public and by special training qualified to determine their needs, his recommendations as to the purchase of books should be closely followed. The librarian, however, should in his own interest explain to the board, or the committee especially entrusted with that branch of the work, the reasons that influence his judgment. As the board of trustees are supposed to be business and professional men of wide experience, they should be of value to the librarian in working out any system of

organization and fixing the compensation of all employees.

"You will see in a general way I feel that a board of trustees can work most independent of the librarian in the direction of the securing and the disbursement of funds, except the details of disbursement for books, periodicals, etc.; that they can assist the librarian very greatly in organization and in fixing the compensation of employees; but inasmuch as the librarian only comes in contact with these employees, he should employ and discharge them at his pleasure and be held by the board responsible for results."

A prominent librarian, one of a number to whom I wrote at the last moment for an expression of his views, sends the following off-hand statement:

"My advice to trustees would be to content themselves with dealing with the library in a large way and on general principles. Mark out its line of action and shape its policy. Determine the general character of the literature which it shall supply and the purposes which it shall undertake to serve in the community. Select a librarian in whom they have confidence and give him that confidence in full measure. Hold him responsible for the results. Do not hamper him by interfering in the details of administration. The burden of building up the library and of making for it a good name and a powerful influence where it should be felt must rest mainly upon the librarian.

"The trustees having made a choice according to their wisest judgment and having given him a salary commensurate with his labors and the financial ability of the library, should hold up his hands just as long as he shows himself worthy of their support. The librarian is the paid executive officer whose duty it is to run the library. So long as it runs smoothly and with satisfactory results they should interfere with him as little as possible. The moment it appears that the results are not satisfactory and that the librarian has lost the confidence of the board is the time for a change of librarians."

There are probably few librarians of long experience who do not recognize the two opposite types of directors referred to by Dr. Learned; the one unwilling to give any time or thought to questions that come before the board and its committees, the other wanting to assume all the functions of board and librarian. Neither one

is to be desired; but of the former it may be said that if he does no good he at least does no particular harm, while the harmful capacity of the latter is incalculable. Give me a respectable figurehead rather than an opinionated, domineering meddler.

One of the most important functions of a trustee is to act as a well-informed critic, to sit in judgment on the librarian. But if one or more of the trustees take it upon themselves to do the work of the librarian, who is to act as judge and critic? Here is power without accountability, while to the librarian is left responsibility without power.

Mr. Green says, "A board of trustees owes it to its librarian to protect him from the vagaries of impracticable men who may by some chance become members of the board."

It is their duty also to see that the librarian's recommendations are not rejected merely because they are opposed by a single opinionated and aggressive member of the board. It is the business of trustees to consider all reasons for and against a given proposition and to give as careful attention and as much weight to the arguments of the librarian as to those of the director. The librarian will always acquiesce cheerfully in a decision that represents the judgment of a majority of the board; but it is rather galling to have his well-considered plan set aside by the snap-judgment of a single member—it may be against the evident preference of the rest of the board. It has been my experience with trustees that those who know most about the library and are most capable of forming a wise judgment are usually most willing to leave all details to the librarian's discretion and also to invite his counsel concerning broad lines of policy.

Lest in thus claiming large liberty for the librarian I may seem to make the position of trustee a sinecure, let me briefly recapitulate the various functions of the latter.

1. To raise funds, from public or private sources or both.
2. To manage the funds—to finance the institution.
3. To supervise disbursements—to determine for what purposes expenditures shall be made, to see that they are made judiciously, and to see that every dollar is accounted for.
4. To determine the general policy of the institution.

5. To advise with the librarian in administrative details and give him the benefit of their business ability in organizing the staff and systematizing the work of the library.

6. To criticise the methods of the librarian and judge the results obtained ; to spur him on if he lacks energy and enterprise ; or curb and guide his excess of enthusiasm ; to check eccentricities and to prevent errors of individual judgment ; finally, to dismiss him if a failure and employ some one whom they believe to be competent.

7. In their representative capacity, as persons in whom the community has confidence, to give the people assurance that the administration of the library is judicious and that it is managed for the greatest good of the greatest number.

These various duties will certainly require as much time and thought as most men can give to gratuitous public service ; and their thorough fulfilment does not in the least conflict with what Mr. Green offers as "the wisest course for a board of trustees to pursue" : viz., "to let a good librarian do pretty much as he thinks best, only keeping a watchful eye upon him for the purpose of seeing that things are not going wrong under his conduct of affairs." It seems to me the best thing a board can do for a library is to secure a librarian with whom they can feel safe in pursuing this plan. For the trustees come and go : the librarian remains. To the trustees the library is a side interest, at most the avocation of a few hours a week : to the librarian it is an absorbing vocation : it is not only his source of livelihood, but it is his life.

ADVERTISING A LIBRARY.

BY MISS L. E. STEARNS, PUBLIC LIBRARY, MILWAUKEE, WIS.

W. D. HOWELLS, in a recent article on "Advertising" in *Harper's Weekly*, says: "I wish that some one would give us some philosophy of the prodigious increase of advertising within the last 25 years, and some conjectures as to the end of it all. Evidently, it can't keep on increasing at the present rate. If it does, there will presently be no room in the world for things ; it will be filled up with the *advertisements* of things. Before that time, perhaps, adsmithing will have become so fine and potent an art that advertising will be reduced in bulk, while keeping all its energy and increasing its effectiveness. Or perhaps some silent, electrical process will be contrived, so that the attractions of a new line of dress goods or the fascination of a spring or fall opening may be imparted to a lady's consciousness without even the agency of words. All other facts of commercial and industrial interest could be dealt with in the same way. A fine thrill," he continues, "could be made to go from the last new book through the whole community so that people would not willingly rest till they had it. Yes, one can see an indefinite future for advertising in that way. The adsmith may be the supreme artist of the 20th century."

Until human ingenuity has solved the thrill problem, we, librarians, must be content, to a large extent, with the efficacy of that most powerful of modern civilizing agencies—printer's ink.

Our president, Mr. Dana, has said, "Business runs the world ; or, the world gets civilized just as fast as men learn how to run things on plain, business principles."

Advertising is one of the recognized departments of business. Advertising is not an experiment, nor is it a business side issue ; it is a business necessity, to be studied and experimented upon as one studies and experiments upon the other departments of business economy.

The importance of judicious advertising should suggest itself to every wide-awake librarian, in her endeavor to reach every man, woman, and child in her city or village.

There is no stratum of society not reached and influenced by some form of advertising. "Nine-tenths of the world would rather be interested than educated, and the other tenth likes to be interested too." The librarian, then, must first interest the masses, to bring them within her doors, and then attempt to educate them. "She must first capture the

eye. The eye is the sentinel of the will. Capture the sentinel and you will capture the will. The feet follow the eyes." It is the untiring, unremitting, keeping - everlastingly-at-it-and-never-taking-no-for-an-answer appeal to the eyes of the people that will bring them within your portals.

But to do all this, the advertiser must be a student of human nature and human needs. Of all mediums for reaching all classes, the greatest for local use is the newspaper. People will read the newspapers, for that is what they buy them for. Good advertising is good reading.

To the disbeliever in newspaper advertising, the confidence in it displayed by the great merchants and manufacturers must be incomprehensible. Note what enormous sums are spent in that way, and the care and ability bestowed upon the preparation of announcements. The arts of the painter and the poet, the descriptive writer and the mechanical engraver, to say nothing of the individual talent of the advertisement-writer, are daily employed in advertising.

Through all this, "every advertiser is trying to tell the world his business, to do more business with the world." Ordinarily, people think of advertising only as it is exemplified in the newspapers, magazines, bill-boards, and other openly avowed media, and classify it under dignified or undignified sensationalism. All this is publicity, it is true, but in our interpretation of the word advertising we must adhere to its original meaning—to advertise, to inform; advertising, dissemination of information; an effort to cause others to know.

The librarian who asserts that he does not believe in advertising has only to glance at the sign above his doors and the catalogs and bulletins on his counters. What are all these but advertisements of the location and contents of his library? But a catalog within a library never brought a man to it. That must be accomplished by some outside agency.

There is a type of sufficient-unto-the-day-is-the-circulation-thereof librarian who does not believe in using business bait. He is content to try to raise the standard of the elect within his doors, and aims at culture rather than general happiness. If there is a decrease in the yearly circulation he complacently attributes it to the reign of the wheel, and makes no attempt to recruit his ranks from those of more sedentary

temperament. If you suggest that advertising is the oxigenic accessory which will promote or inflate his circulation, and that an alluring column of library notes published regularly might stem the falling tide, he complacently tells you that he did insert a list once on the "Equipoise of Europe," and suggested that it might be cut out and be used as a call slip at the library, but that no one used it—and he regards this sporadic attempt as a sufficient test of the whole question.

Notwithstanding his antipathy to special lists, these are the most common forms of library advertising used in this country to-day. Many libraries publish lists weekly or oftener, on special topics, or recent additions; and then are often disappointed to find the lists so seldom used at the library. But the reason is not far to seek. Many a reader sees the list on Monday, but is deterred from cutting it out on account of its being the most recent paper. He forgets all about it Tuesday, thinks about it Wednesday, and looks for it then. The Monday paper is lost, and the Wednesday paper does not contain it. Now, there is a way out of the difficulty, and one by which any library may have much of its printing done free of charge.

When you send a list to the newspaper, send with it a request to have the type saved for further use. Ask your editor to take the type composing the list to a small job press, and have him strike off 500 or 1000 copies or more for your use. The only expense involved in this will be the cost of the paper and the pressman's services, which generally amounts to about \$1.50 per thousand copies. Many newspapers are willing to perform this service for the advertising which it brings if such a heading as the following is used in the list:

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

CALL SLIP.

FURNISHED BY THE COURTESY

— OF —

THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL

Watch The Journal for Library Notes and Lists.

We can see no reason why what are termed display ads. such as those so skilfully used by Mr. Kates, of Philadelphia Branch No. 5, should not be used by the larger libraries. Each of Mr. Kates's advertisements takes up a half side of a newspaper. One of them advertises the location of the library and the places where application blanks may be obtained. Another half side has to do with the catalog and manner of using it. A third gives a list of the periodicals which the library contains.

Then there is the subject of trade journals. A list of books on electricity was published in a motorman's bulletin, in Milwaukee, and a cordial invitation was extended to the overworked men to become patrons of the library. As a result, the number of such men patronizing the library was increased many fold.

Some time ago, Miss McGuffey, of Boston, suggested in the pages of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* that it might be a good idea for librarians to advertise in street-cars. Mr. Peck, of the Gloversville (N. Y.) Library, is the only one that we know of who does this. We can see nothing undignified in a street-car placard reading, "Get a good book at the Free Public Library," or, "Tired out? Get the 'Prisoner of Zenda' at the Free Public Library."

From Mr. Peck we have received a sample placard which is put up in the hotels and depots of Gloversville, advertising the public library and extending a cordial welcome to the weary wayfarer.

He who doubts the efficacy of the placard should profit by the experience of the Buffalo Library. Shortly after the opening of the new Children's Department, which was heralded by a most tasteful announcement, the authorities had a 10 x 12½ inch card printed in attractive red letters reading,

Boys and Girls.

A room for you in the Buffalo Library.

Books for you to read.

Pictures for you to look at.

Maps for you to put together.

Magazines for everybody.

Some one to tell you stories.

Bring your little brothers and sisters.

Come and enjoy your room at the Buffalo Library.

Cor. of Washington St., and Broadway.

These placards were sown broadcast over the

city. Missions, hospitals, homes, orphan asylums, fresh-air establishments, drug-stores (to attract the soda-water customers), candy-stores — all gladly offered hospitable windows and wall spaces. Newspapers posted them where the boys who came for the papers would see them; mission Sunday-schools and charity organizations co-operated heartily in tacking them up and suggesting where others might be of use; and what was the result? A postal card from Miss Chandler, of the Buffalo Library, reads as follows:

"Cards were out Friday and Saturday.

"*Result No. 1.*— Monday and every day since overflow meetings have been held in the adjoining committee-room.

"*Result No. 2.*— A steady current of extra tables and chairs from all parts of the library upstairsward.

"*Result No. 3.*— More small furniture ordered.

"*Result No. 4.*— More dissected maps ordered and more animals sliced.

"*Result No. 5 — really No. 1.*— The happiest children anywhere to be found."

And then there is the power of the bulletin board. As a sample of what may be done in that direction, I quote from a personal letter from Miss Helen L. Coffin, of Aurora, Ill., a graduate of the Armour Institute Class of '95. Miss Coffin writes: "When I found myself back in my home library, again, as reference librarian, I remembered the lecture on library advertising and after adding 'Advertising manager' to my titles, started out to see what I could do.

"Briefly, this is what I have accomplished. I took one library wall for a bulletin board, and here I keep various and sundry lists, changing them often, using signs, big letters, colored inks, pictures, catchwords — any and everything to attract attention. Half of the space is our picture gallery — mounted photographs, portraits, views, etc., clipped from book reviews, catalogs, etc., with lists of our books to which they refer. These are also changed frequently and are perhaps our most popular advertisements. Just at present, the walls contain complete lists on music, including musical novels, electricity, mechanics, astronomy, metals, selected lists on birds, insects, bees and flowers, summer and housekeeping, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, summer sports, and Alaska.

"The list on Alaska asks most solicitously

'Hot? Then come to Alaska,' and is illustrated by pen-and-ink sketches, transferred by means of tissue-paper from the books cited. Whenever possible, I head a list with an appropriate quotation. For instance, at the head of a list for housekeeping is 'Who sweeps a room as by God's law, makes that and the action fine,' from George Herbert, and I find an interest awakened in the quaint old poet, because he chose such a lowly subject. Last August Barnum was here and I concocted a list for the boys. I cut the elephants, horses, trapezers, lions, etc., from the posters, mounted them with lists of books on those subjects, posted them, and waited for the boys. They came in droves. The list was kept up all winter, the books were always out, and our life of Barnum, heretofore left to dust and introspection, had to be re-bound.

"In addition to this bulletin, I have kept lists posted in our two high schools, Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. rooms, C., B. and Q. car-shops, and Electric R.R. power-house; made lists for the various reading and study clubs and vacation lists for women and children; published lists for the University Extension course in the daily papers; spoken on library aims to both high schools, and have given a ten-lesson course in library science to the West Side high school. Next year—but my plans are too numerous and I will not trouble you with them now."

This is the reign of the poster. Posters minister to two great passions of the age—the taste for decoration and the demand for publicity. Poster shows have drawn many persons to libraries for the first time. Our library uses posters in its circulating department to hide unsightly walls, to give the public something cheerful to look at, and to advertise the circulating copies of books and magazines. "Do posters post?" Most certainly, when used for advertising purposes.

Among the many minor advertising devices

may be mentioned book-marks. Mrs. Sanders, of Pawtucket, R. I., has a very neat little book-mark headed "When in doubt consult the public library." The expense of printing is borne by a local store which puts a simple advertisement on the back. Mrs. Sanders attributes a recent increase in circulation and interest in the library to this talisman.

Calendars could be used to good advantage, especially the take-a-day-off kind, in which books could be suggested for days, holidays, etc.

Time does not permit us to take up other forms of advertising than those through the medium of printer's ink. It should ever be borne in mind, in conclusion, that advertising will bring people to your library, and then its mission stops. Then success depends upon the service within your doors. All the advertising that you can contrive, even though it speaks with the tongues of men and angels, will not offset a hard, imperious, domineering, or condescending spirit within the library. There should be an indefinable something in the appearance of your library to draw people in and an atmosphere most persuasive in keeping them there and making them long to return. Neatness and order and a certain amount of quiet are of course desirable; but it is submitted that there may be a certain amount of orderly disorder, which bespeaks life and business. The popularity of your library depends largely upon your assistants. The wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job, the tact of a politician, unvarying courtesy, unremitting energy, concentration, the ability to judge character, and above all, common sense, make for all that is good in library service. With all these conditions fulfilled, happy then indeed is the lot of the librarian who can say with our friend, Miss Garland, of Dover, that "Like the immortal Mellin's Food, we are advertised by our loving friends."

LIBRARY EDITIONS OF POPULAR FICTION.

BY CHARLES R. DUDLEY, LIBRARIAN CITY LIBRARY, DENVER, COL.

AT the annual meetings of this Association during the two decades of its existence, nearly every subject relating to library economy has been discussed and re-discussed until it might seem almost impossible to present a new topic that would be of general interest to the members.

At the Lake Placid meeting, two years ago, I made a suggestion on the subject of better editions of popular books for circulating libraries than those usually furnished to the trade. A short discussion followed. Since that time nothing has been heard of it. Hence, perhaps, it may not be considered presumptuous to claim for this paper the distinction of newness. I am fully convinced that no matter of greater importance to all the members of this Association and to the libraries with which they are connected, has ever been considered. More particularly is this true of the smaller libraries, whose income both for the purchase of books and for administration is very limited.

We have had the question of re-binding most fully investigated and the results ably presented. Re-binding, however, presupposes a book of sufficient commercial value to warrant the expenditure, and this is not always the case. It is a secondary consideration and one that each library can take care of for itself, while library editions, if secured at all, must come through the co-operation of a large part of the libraries of the country with the publishers.

The use of fiction, adult and juvenile, in public libraries averages about 75 per cent. of the total circulation, and it is of these only that it is necessary to speak. In few other classes is the demand great enough, in the ordinary library, to necessitate the keeping of more than one copy at a time, and, generally speaking, other books are made in a more durable manner.

The smaller libraries after they have been in existence a few years must expend a very considerable and constantly increasing amount each year to replace worn-out books, and the larger ones even more, in proportion to their size. The outlay in the aggregate is something enormous, and much of it should be done away with.

The chief trouble in the make-up of the novel of to-day is the paper on which it is printed; some of it is pure wood pulp, not nearly as good as is used in many of the daily newspapers; much is a highly calendered, mineral-filled paper, scarcely able to sustain its own useless weight, and very little has any cotton, linen, or other good fibre worth mentioning. After being opened a few times, in the careless way so common to library patrons, a leaf breaks out. You may tip it in, but the next time it is opened hurriedly the leaf comes out again, leaving considerable of its thickness on the paste to which it was attached. Frequently a thread breaks the first or second time a book is used and it is sent to the bindery. No matter how careful the binder may be in removing the glue from the back for re-sewing, a great part of the outer fold of each section will come off with it, and the book is scarcely worth the cost of putting together again.

To adapt the thought of the gentleman from Kentucky when speaking of the most popular product of his state, we might exaggerate slightly and say that all novels are poorly made but some are worse than others.

The experience of all is the same, but I do not know that any other librarian has made a comparison between the wearing qualities of any two grades. In the library with which I am best acquainted an opportunity was given to do this, and the results are certainly interesting. We had, at the opening, nearly 10 years ago, 1061 volumes of the Tauchnitz edition of British fiction. These were wire-sewed, had morocco backs and cloth sides. There were also about the same number of cloth-bound novels issued by American publishers—the usual assortment that a small library would buy. At the end of five years this was the status:

We had sent to the bindery 41 volumes of the Tauchnitz edition at an expense of less than \$13, and of the others, 1013 volumes at an expense of more than \$400. During the same period we were obliged to condemn 20 volumes of the Tauchnitz and 208 volumes of the others. A comparison of the juvenile list shows that as a

whole they are even less substantially made than books for adults. Our circulation during those years ranged from 38,000 to 76,000 annually.

The Tauchnitz is not an ideal library edition, but probably the best, of any considerable size, that is available for such purposes. The paper is quite good and the binding that we ordered the usual style furnished by the publisher. It is superior to the average. A better book would wear longer, of course. This comparison was made, not for the purpose of advertising, but because it was the only one I could make, as there was no time in which to visit other libraries or obtain data from them. The comparisons would have been brought down to date had not some of our bindery schedules been mislaid.

Regarding the use of the books in these two divisions, I would say that two of the Tauchnitz were circulated to three of the others.

I am not able to draw detailed specifications for a book mechanically perfect, nor do I care to. Here are a few suggestions, however:

The paper should be strong, thin, and very flexible, so flexible, indeed, that when the book is opened the leaves will lie down without compulsion. It should not be a pure white nor calendered to such an extent that there will be disagreeable reflection of light from the page. If there is not now a paper made that will meet these requirements it certainly can be made.

In binding, the sewing should be with the best thread on tapes, the first and last sections attached to cloth hinges, the corners of the boards tipped with vellum and the covering a strong cloth of a color least liable to show dirt.

Where an illustration is to be inserted it should be half an inch wider than the page so that it may be folded on the inside edge and sewed in.

In lettering the back, author and title should be placed near the top to avoid being covered by the library tag.

Now to make a guess at the additional cost of a good book:

Suppose we take as a basis the novel published at \$1.50, with a discount of 40 per cent. to the trade, netting the publisher \$0.90. This costs a library \$1.00. The average weight of paper in a novel is not more than one and one-half pounds and perhaps costs 10 cents per pound. The expense of changing from one paper to another, when the edition is being run off, cannot be worth mentioning. Suppose a paper is used that costs 20 cents per pound, there would be only an additional expense of 15 cents. Let us add 45 cents more for better binding and for other expenses that we know not of. This makes a book that would be listed at \$2.50, sell to the trade for \$1.50 and cost a library \$1.66, but would wear from three to five times as long as the ordinary edition. In all probability the additional cost above mentioned is much too great, but it serves to illustrate.

The questions then presented are these: Can the publishers of this country be induced to print a part of each edition of every work of fiction that is liable to find a place in most of the circulating libraries on a paper that will withstand hard usage, and bind it in what experience has taught is the most serviceable style? Will the librarians agree to purchase such editions, and no others, when these are made? It goes without saying that it would be economy for the libraries and I believe the publishers can find a profit in it. Let them not forget that the libraries are, in some respects, their best advertising mediums.

"DO": ADVICE BASED ON EXPERIENCE.

COMMUNICATED BY A NUMBER OF LIBRARIANS; EDITED BY MISS ELLEN M. CHANDLER,
BUFFALO LIBRARY.

DO try to do something for yourself before asking any one to do it for you, and do try to find a thing for yourself before asking any one else to find it for you.

Do have an "understudy" for every important position in the library.

Do see that every person who in any way mutilates a book or newspaper is promptly and adequately punished, not only in being denied access to the library, but in whatever other way the law may authorize.

Do realize that there is such a thing as a competent student, and when he appears, help him to work, and don't take as much of his time as possible in attending to obsolete formalities.

Do try to make your attendants realize that they largely merge their individuality in the library in which they are employed, in the sense that their sins of omission and commission reflect not upon themselves but upon the institution. And that they are the ones who make or mar the usefulness of a library to an extent rarely attained by its chief officer.

Do be as courteous and considerate towards each one who comes into your library as you would be towards your friend or fashionable acquaintance.

Do all your work in a cheerful spirit, and in a willing manner, even if it is distasteful work.

To trustees and head-librarians: Do give generous vacations to your library workers, especially heads of departments. They will work better and keep in better health for it.

DO strive to make the attendants feel that you have faith in each one and in her interest in the library. It will increase her interest, and call forth better work.

Do remember that a library viewed from *outside* the delivery-desk and from *inside* is an entirely different place. The more the person outside can be given the advantages in tools and suggestions belonging to the person inside, the better can her wants be supplied. And, the more completely the attendant imagines herself in the place of the proverbial "gentle reader"

the more easily will she find the way to supply that reader's wants.

Do—something. Mistakes are excusable—lethargy and stagnation unpardonable.

Do have regard to the outsides of books. Place labels where they will mar the least, without regard for uniformity. Do not use them at all where not absolutely necessary.

Do publish lists of new books in condensed form, with author, title, and number, and with *no other matter*; this whether you publish a bulletin or not, and in addition to notices in daily papers.

Do have a children's department, if possible, for the sake of making a special study of their needs.

Do require written monthly reports from every department of the library. It makes the heads of departments watchful, and anxious to make a good showing.

Do have a regular order of presenting statistics in either written or printed reports, and stick to it. Co-operation here is much needed.

DO your best as reference librarian to make each reader feel that you are personally interested in the complete solution of the question under investigation. You will make a friend and broaden your own experience.

Do circulate yourself as well as your books.

Do put your best bibliographical aids to readers where readers will be aided—that is, in the delivery-room.

Do have as little red tape as possible, consistently with proper care for the safety of the books.

Do give the largest liberty possible to teachers and schools as to number of books taken and time of returning them.

Do try to have patience with those who never can ask for the exact subject they want, and so oblige one to make many unnecessary trips about the library.

Do welcome the children.

Do try to have patience with the trustees who

are so slow in deciding on books to be bought, and on any changes or reforms.

Do believe that a good employee will work better, work longer and more satisfactorily to herself and to you, if allowed to go forward in her own way, than she would if compelled to conform in the minutest details to your own thoughts and ideals.

Do pay the price of two old books, which will never leave the shelves, for one new one for which the public is clamoring.

Do keep your card catalog up to date.

Do remember that the library is for the use of the public, and the public is all sorts and conditions of men.

Do show that you consider it a pleasure to be "bothered" by one in search of information.

Do give your assistants an opportunity to learn all branches of library work. They will have more interest in their work if they know not only how to lend or return a book, but also how to bind, classify, and catalog it.

Do have a kind word occasionally for your assistants; it will surely be appreciated.

Do keep up with the times in your ideas, appliances, etc.

Do establish a routine and hold to it.

Do the odds and ends as they come up, to avoid accumulation or omissions.

Do take time to plan your work thoroughly, before you begin to execute it.

DO get a cat for your library. A well-fed, well-treated cat is a valuable object-lesson in kindness to animals. I am moved to say this by the sight of our Dahomey asleep on a steam-radiator near the children's book-shelves. He is so friendly with everybody that I am sure no child has ever been cruel to him.

Do always keep wild flowers on the library counter from April to November. Label them with their common names, and encourage the use of Mrs. Dana's "How to know the wild flowers" or other books by leaving a copy open at the botanical names and description of habits. Nine readers out of ten are like the idiot of the small boy's definition—"A man who doesn't know an arbor-vitæ from a pine"—I might add, a cardinal flower from a hepatica.

Do have as few rules as possible.

Do enforce *every* rule, fully, impartially, and rigidly.

Do, in particular, see that every fine due the

library is promptly collected, whether another book is taken out or not.

Do scan the columns of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* with sufficient care to note the smaller items as well as the more momentous projects, and when you find, as you might have found in the *July JOURNAL*, a request for what the library guild is more in the habit of demanding than supplying, namely, a request for your own full name, Do not refuse to supply the desired information.

Do find out something about the inside as well as the outside of your books.

DO use a rubber-stamp lettered "A gift to — Library from," under which you can write the name of the giver. Such an inscription on the back of a title-page, or on the fly-leaf facing it, is a permanent record, and requires no care when the book is re-bound.

Do keep your order list on cards, arranged alphabetically by authors. The simplest, cheapest, plainest cards—the backs of spoiled or withdrawn catalog cards and of the Library Bureau catalog cards for books which you are not going to buy (supposing you to be a subscriber), answer as well as those elaborately printed with blanks. You will save time, labor, money, and endless vexation with duplicates.

Do open the library doors promptly, at least as promptly as you close them.

Do have a children's room, and do have it *large* enough.

Do, in their own department, allow children freedom to breathe, and think, and even to move, to talk (not whisper), and to laugh. They will not abuse the privilege, and will be infinitely happier than if "hushed" by a warning finger or overawed by a threatening placard. They may even want to come again.

Do provide bicycle stands or standing-room for the wheels which bring your readers to the library doors. If you do not, the wheels may cease to roll your way, and the riders will stick to their wheels.

DO keep "knitting-work" at hand, leaves of books or sheets of titles for bulletins to cut, that the time spent in talking with bores and book agents may not be entirely lost.

Do invite children from the schools to see pictures illustrating poems or stories. Tell them how to make scrap-books of such pictures and authors' portraits, and also games of authors from publishers' catalogs. Give the children

gingerbread and lemonade before they go home, and the scrap-book lessons will be more effectual.

Do have a conversation-room for the women who gossip and the men who exchange views on the questions of the day.

Do refrain from asking a person if damage to a book is due to his carelessness. He will break the whole Ten Commandments, if necessary, to assure you that it is not.

Do suggest a way to make people return magazines and papers to their proper places before leaving the reading-room.

Do request readers not to take a daily nap over the morning paper.

Do, if possible, write signs so that people can understand them.

To librarians of school and college libraries, where students are employed as assistants: Do establish an apprentice system, and do refrain from putting a student on the payroll until he has learned something about the work and shown his fitness for it.

DO keep cataloging up to date, and have all cards written put in place at once.

Do study practical bibliography.

Do support all co-operative library efforts, and initiate new ones.

Do all you can to keep library work out of the ruts.

Do discourage the reading of the newest books in preference to the better older ones.

Do insist on intelligence and courtesy in library attendants.

Do the best you can.

Do endeavor to bring the people into contact with the books, by access to the shelves if possible.

DO help to organize a state association if one does not already exist.

Do go to the state meetings, even if at first you doubt, being so very wise yourself, whether it will be personally profitable. Just consider what an advantage contact with such wisdom will be to others.

Do ask publishers for posters for the magazines which you circulate and post them in your circulating department. They attract attention to the magazines and it pleases your book-borrowers to see them. Most publishers see the point when you explain the purpose.

Do talk with your assistants. Their lot is

not altogether a happy one. If they come to feel that they are necessary parts of a great whole it makes "bricks" of them. In this connection

Do read "The ship that found herself," by Kipling, in *McClure's* for March, 1896.

Do make a sample-book of every printed form used in the library. Sort the samples by departments, letter and number them. Give under the sample the source where obtained, quantity usually ordered, and price per thousand or hundred. If each blank carries a little legend giving date of last order and quantity ordered (like this, "10M 15Je 95"), it helps to check small extravagances. It costs nothing to add it.

Do use a picture lens from four to six inches across in reading proof. It is the one instance where it is good policy to magnify defects.

DO listen or read, when announcements are made or posted, for librarians in general, instead of asking that they be repeated for your special edification.

Do remember that the librarian is, and always should be, the servant of the people.

DO keep a close acquaintance with English publications, and not depend on American importers or reprinters to introduce them to you.

Do give a fair share of odd minutes to the scanning of catalogs of second-hand dealers. It will pay.

Do remember always that cataloging is a *means*, not an end.

Do cherish the freshness of new books, and not allow them to be stalled in the cataloging-room.

Do be patient with impatient people, and reasonable with the unreasonable.

Do guard yourself from falling blindly in love with your own way of doing things.

Do give help and support to the co-operative undertakings of the A. L. A., and to the bibliographical enterprises of Mr. Bowker.

Do report your experiments. When you find a good thing tell us about it. When you make a failure let us know it.

Do give all kinds of opinion a fair hearing in your library. Be respectful (not obsequious) even to fads.

DO encourage your staff to read bibliography and current book reviews. If you cannot trust your assistants to read only what directly bears upon their work, then by all means do employ a

staff you can trust implicitly, even if you pay a little more.

Do enter your periodicals under the last or best-known name, letting the salient features of dates, volumes, and reviews stand forth clearly. Let changes of title, less important editors, and irregularities of issue appear in a note in finer type. The scholar who seeks the history of the journal can thus find it, and the impatient public will not be forced to wander through a maze of undesired information in the body of the title.

Do give your catalogers a chance at the reference work. An hour a day with the readers brings the weary cataloger in touch with the outer world, gives a fresh stimulus to her work, and teaches her what the public look for in the catalog. The reader may receive valuable aid from one who has studied and analyzed the book, and the cataloger will be preserved from the inevitable *cult* of the catalog which results from application to the one line of thought.

DO look at Buffalo's beautiful "ad"
If you want to know how to make children glad.
Dissected maps and animals sliced
Are certainly a most ingenious device.

Do have a children's department in your library.

Do look at Denver's open shelves
Where dear little children help themselves.

Do study the pages of *Printer's Ink*;
For all the modern librarians think
That to advertise is the only way
To let people know what's read to-day.

Do have a place in your library for the assistants to rest during the lunch hour.

When met at your delivery-desk by stupid comments and criticisms on books, authors, and library management, Do keep a level head "though it pass your patience."

Do your professional duty to all classes wisely, promptly, and above all, cheerily.

"DO unto others (the public) as you would that others should do unto you."

Do remember that you are but the servant of the public, and that you cannot afford, therefore, to be uncivil.

Do lead the public.

Do bear a pleasant face to rich and poor alike.

Do be interested in your work—or resign.

Do give the library the best work.

DO "take down the bars" so far as possible; avoid "red tape"; give the widest possible liberty to those who will appreciate and not misuse it. Democratic Americans chafe under restraint.

Do make people know that there is a library in town, and where it is; let them know that it is alive, free, and that they will be welcome. To this end occasionally use local newspapers for the purposes of legitimate, dignified, free "advertising."

Do put good talent at the loan-desk. For many readers this is the only point of contact with the library, and they are almost entirely dependent on the wisdom (or unwisdom) of the loan-desk for their choice of reading.

Do use revolving bookcases in the reading-room for shelving books for study-clubs, etc. They are convenient and add homelikeness to the library.

Do get books for clubs (or individuals) at the time they are wanted, rather than after the special reason has ceased to exist. Book committees rather than librarians are usually at fault here.

DO answer or acknowledge all inquiries from fellow-librarians at once.

Do make your catalog (however poor) immediately accessible to the public.

Do it now, do it carefully, do it relatively, do it objectively, do it conscientiously, do it systematically, do it calmly, do it for the future as well as the present, do it broadly—keeping in touch with the interests of the outside world—do it cheerfully.

Do, when other people make mistakes, remember that you, too, may make them, and *be considerate*.

Do answer business letters promptly.

Do your trustees the compliment of consulting them individually when asking any new thing. By so doing you are more likely to succeed.

Do your best for your library, thereby forcing your library to do its best for you.

NEW AND OLD BOOKS: WHAT TO BUY.

BY CAROLINE M. HEWINS, LIBRARIAN, PUBLIC LIBRARY, HARTFORD.

YOU remember how, in the Story of Aladdin in the little fat fairy-book dear to our childhood, the princess whom Aladdin had married heard a man shouting outside the palace, and sent one of her women slaves to know what the man cried. "Madam," said the slave, the story goes on, "I cannot forbear laughing to see a fool with a basketful of new lamps on his arm asking to exchange for old ones." Another woman slave who was present said, "I know not whether the princess has observed it, but there is an old lamp upon the cornice; if the princess pleases, she may try if this foolish man will give a new one for it." You know what happened, how the magician in disguise, the forerunner of all the collectors of old furniture who persuade simple country-folk to exchange their Chippendale chairs and carved cupboards and claw-footed tables for the commonplace machine-made ones of to-day, left his new lamp and took away the magic one Aladdin always carried about with him except when he went hunting, and Aladdin, whatever game he found in the forest, wished that he had stayed at home when he saw a sandy desert without trace of princess, palace, or slaves where he had left them.

Every library, great or small, has two classes of readers to provide for. First, those who never read a book-notice, pass by the most gaudy and staring posters advertising new books without seeing them, and apparently have never heard of anything published in the last ten years. Second, those who read all the notices and advertisements of novels in the daily papers, and besiege the libraries for the latest stories, often weeks before they are in the market. A small library is constantly confronted by the problem of how to satisfy readers of both these classes and at the same time to buy a reasonable number of new books of a better kind, and fill the gaps revealed by an attempt to work up any subject in the library for the use of a club. The consequences of buying too largely of new books instead of old may not be as disastrous as they were to Aladdin, but it is well to remember what Schopenhauer says: "Consider that the

man who writes for fools is always sure of a large audience. . . . Because people always read what is new instead of the best of all ages, writers remain in the narrow circle of the ideas which happen to prevail in their time; and so the period sinks deeper and deeper into its own mire."

The superintendent of circulation in a large library once said to me: "It is as bad for a library not to have every book in its printed catalog as for a shop-keeper to advertise wares not in his stock." We all know the look of surprise and disappointment which is seen upon a reader's face when in answer to a request for "True to the last, or, one woman's two lovers," he or she is told at the counter, "We used to have it, but it is worn out." It is, however, often hard to replace novels. I have at hand a list of "shorts," as the book trade calls them, that have been ordered to replace worn-out copies on our shelves, and that our bookseller has failed to find. This list includes three titles by Mrs. Alexander, two by Anstey, one by Barrett, three by Frank Lee Benedict, five by Miss Braddon, one by Ada Cambridge, two by Mrs. Cameron, one by Miss Croker, three by Dumas, two by Annie Edwards, three by Gaboriau, four by Theo. Gift, one by Hardy, five by Julian Hawthorne, one by Ellice Hopkins, eight by G. P. R. James, one by Captain King, three by Katherine King, one by Holme Lee, seven by Justin McCarthy, eleven by Florence Marryat, one by Meade, one by Mühlbach, four by Payn, one by Pont-Jost, two by Mrs. Riddell, four by Adeline Sergeant, one by Seton, one by Julia P. Smith, seven by Annie Thomas, one by Tirebuck, one by Sarah Tytler, two by Florence Warden, one by Werner, eleven by John Strange Winter, and one by Mrs. Henry Wood.

It is best to supply as many as possible of this class of books from the stock of second-hand dealers in the larger cities. Ordering novels from auction catalogs, unless you can see the books, often puts on your hands poorly printed and worse bound editions. One can often find fresh copies sent to and sold by book-reviewers

for 30 or 40 cents. Money will go farther spent in this way for new copies of old books than in any other. Some favorite novels wear out every year, and should always be replaced. It is impossible to prevent copies of the "Count of Monte Cristo," "Uncle Tom's cabin," *Les Misérables*, or "The scarlet letter" from falling to pieces in a library of even the smallest size. Here is a town library of 5000 volumes, not the 5000 approved by the American Library Association for the reason that it has been in existence for 40 years and has absorbed two small subscription libraries. It has this year \$200 to spend for books, and how is it to lay out that money to the best advantage?

The statistics of the Hartford Public Library show that with 50,000 volumes on the shelves and a circulation of 200,000, about 1000 books have been removed this year as worn out. It is fair to suppose that a library of 5000 has a circulation of from 10,000 to 20,000, and wears out 100 books. With only \$200 to spend, however, is it best to use half of it to replace novels that are not of permanent value? In a still smaller library which can spend only \$50 a year, it is hard to sacrifice 25 of those precious dollars for books that have been read over and over again—to give up the new illustrated edition of White's "Selborne" and "The Gurneys of Earham," Grosvenor's "Constantinople" and the four volumes of the illustrated Green's "Short history," for stories fairly represented by "Monte Cristo," "Willy Reilly," "The opening of a chestnut burr," "The Green Mountain boys," "Toby Tyler," "Two college girls," "The red mustang," and "The heir of Redclyffe"—books that you yourself either know by heart or have never thought worth reading through. You have bound and patched

and mended and stitched and covered, but it is of no use. The well-thumbed copies tumble in pieces if you touch them, and the public must have its books. You draw your pencil through the order that was to be a little for your own selfish gratification, and write yourself as one who loves his fellowmen in sending instead for the books that are to give the greatest pleasure to the greatest number. In a new library, bought with careful consideration from well-selected lists, there should be no books not worth replacing, but in a library in a country town, which has for years received the waifs and strays read through and left behind by summer boarders, there are always paper-covered and other novels not worth binding or cataloging. The Boston Athenæum, says the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for May, enters current publications of little permanent value, but a certain passing interest, on a temporary list, giving them running numbers by which they can be charged, but not putting them on the catalog or the shelf-list. At the end of a year or after the interest in them has passed, the book committee is to decide whether they are to be placed in the library or thrown aside.

The Quincy plan, formulated a few years ago by Charles Francis Adams, has its advantages, in making the smaller town libraries live working ones for every-day needs. He fixes 15,000 as the limit for town libraries. We have all, nevertheless, found that a book which is taken off the shelves and not renewed is sure to be in demand for some reason or other, although it may have dropped in pieces from standing still. It is not right for town libraries to spend any money on book-curios, and gone-by books of science should be housed in large city or university collections.

READING-ROOM AND PERIODICALS.

BY MISS HANNAH P. JAMES, LIBRARIAN, OSTERHOULT LIBRARY, WILKES-BARRE, PA.

THE subject or subjects assigned me admit of a variety of treatment, for reading-rooms are of many kinds, and each one should be adapted to the needs of the place it is in. It may be that I am expected to deal entirely with periodical reading-rooms, but as the saying goes, "It is the unexpected that happens," so I have ventured to stray from the obvious path of duty and branch out upon a different trail, thinking thereby to get at the root of the whole matter of library influence, and give a few fundamental ideas rather than many technical hints. The province of the librarian should include not only the library proper, but the reading-room or rooms, as the case may be, and the same care be exercised in the selection of magazines or newspapers as in books. I have heard of a library that subscribed for a number of copies of the *Police Gazette*, as that was more read than anything else. The idea that reading in itself is meritorious is not tenable, for every thoughtful librarian knows that many a naturally sane mind has been ruined for all serious thought or purpose in life by the opportunity to read frivolous or vicious literature. Better never read at all than read only what is debasing. To have the noblest faculties of the mind tainted and debased by what it feeds on is, or should be considered, a crime. That it is not so considered is because the crime is too common to cause remark. Our public libraries should stand as beacon-lights to show a better way and lead to a nobler development of life. The *life* is the man, and the development of his life the loftiest aim to which we can devote our powers; and as in every department of the library that aim should be the end in view, so we should select the periodical literature as well as the books with regard to the true education of the heart and soul, as well as the mind, of our readers. The well-known standard literary journals should of course be had if possible. How large a supply of the cheaper issues should be taken is a question. Not that many of them are not of good quality, but their place might be better filled by magazines especially adapted to various needs. Then,

too, while we may try to avoid weak fiction upon our shelves, we may be furnishing an untold quantity in our multiplicity of magazines. The tendency of the time is strongly in the direction of scrappy, unconnected reading, which the great number of periodicals and newspapers tends greatly to foster. It would seem to be within the educational province of the library to encourage reading with a purpose, and to increase the number of technical periodicals (I use the term in its broadest sense) rather than to enlarge the number of perhaps harmless but not especially helpful ones. The industries of a place should be one of the first considerations. Hobbies should be tenderly cared for. Postage-stamps and poultry for the boys, china painting and needlework for the girls, music for all and science for all—these will do much towards correcting the taste and inducing a desire to read with a purpose. If in any case the library funds do not admit of supplying all the various needs, it might be possible to interest a few who are especially desirous of having a certain publication to contribute the necessary amount for the benefit of all.

Three or four architects, for instance, might club together and subscribe for the *Architect and Building News*, who would not feel able to procure it individually, but would in this way share equally in its use, and others would reap the benefit also. Religious, or rather denominational periodicals should be received as gifts, generally speaking. I have already referred to the wants of the children. Give them of the best—*St. Nicholas*, *Harper's Round Table*, *Youth's Companion*, and everything else equally good—to keep them from the debasing influences of the pennydreadfuls that lie in wait like so many serpents in their paths. It is almost beyond belief to learn the number and the vileness of the publications which are forced upon the notice of the children of the present day, and anything that the library or the reading-room can do to counteract their fatal influence should be done. There is another tendency abroad which, while it may not be classed among the distinctly vicious, is yet

doing much to sap and weaken our higher powers, and that is the tendency to turn everything in life to ridicule. Take the funny papers of the day, and you will find that nothing is too sacred to form the butt of their wit or sarcasm. The very fact that a certain amount must be manufactured every week tends to make them careless as to the spirit of the joke. I have been sorry more than once that we have *Life* on our list when I see the young people call for the back volumes and pore over it for hours, to the exclusion of better things, or ask for it in the magazine-room, and leave if the last number cannot be had. There is no danger of our becoming too serious a people. All the popular magazines have their funny column, which furnishes enough amusement along with more solid food, but to see young people neglect more profitable reading which they would take but for it, leads one to doubt the wisdom of giving the sanction of the library to the influence of this kind of literature. I am aware that this will have a very radical sound to many, but it is a subject well worthy of serious thought.

The newspapers of our day are among the greatest foes of solid and continuous reading, that steady and persistent reading which develops the powers of the mind as healthful physical exercise develops the muscles of the body. Setting aside those newspapers which cater to a low or sensational taste, the great dailies, and especially the enormous Sunday editions, are perfect miners and sappers of the mind and memory. How many can give, after poring over one of these, a clear idea of what has been read? The articles may all be true, and many of them interesting, but the effect of constant newspaper reading upon the average man is necessarily to weaken his mental grip and spoil his power of application to more serious studies. So it seems to me that the average library, and especially the smaller ones, can do better service by using their money in some other way. Scarcely any one in this country who cares to read a paper but contrives in some way to get it. The newspaper is as common as the day, and he who does not get one is hardly the one to go to the reading-room for it.

The better way of spending the newspaper money would be to establish a reading-room for the children. Our hope for the future lies in

them, and in the way they are prepared to assume the responsibilities of the future.

The Pawtucket Library has for years gathered in the children from the streets and given them special tables and chairs and a liberal supply of attractive magazines. Many others have followed their example. The great Boston Library has devoted a large room lined with books exclusively to children, and finds it crowded daily. The last to develop this most important work is the Buffalo Library, where chairs and tables of kindergarten size invite the smallest child to come and partake of the feast provided. And is not this going to the root of the whole matter? If our libraries do not stand as potent aids in the education and inspiration of the present and future generations, they do stand for a wicked waste of opportunity and treasure.

This great agency for the development of mankind, the modern public library, has been placed in our hands to administer. What should our aim be? Should it be anything short of the highest? Should we not work for the future by beginning to cultivate the plant in its infancy? Is it the gnarled and stunted tree, grown crooked and one-sided from adverse winds or neglect, which you try to train into a straight and healthy growth? Is it not rather the young tree, coming up in its tender beauty, that you shield, and encourage, and enrich, with good promise of reward? So it is in our libraries. Provision should be made for the healthy mental and moral growth of the little ones as well as their elders. Connect the child with the library in his earliest years; let him realize that it is just as much for him as for others. Supply his needs abundantly, giving him plenty of aids in his school work, and make the place as attractive to him as possible. He responds quickly to the interest shown in him, and is proud to be able to help himself to sources of information and to help his fellows.

You cannot often change the mental taste of the adult. The mind takes on early the tastes and habits which determine its future development.

A good book, or a bad book! How often it makes or mars the human soul! Educators realize fully that the training of the child cannot begin too early; and we are realizing that the aid of the library in the healthful training of the child cannot begin too early.

Work with the child in every way you can;

be careful that no book or magazine shall lend its influence to harm it; make the library, or better, the reading-room, so attractive to him that it will become a part of his daily life, a powerful foe to the influence of the street, a constant source of help intellectually, morally, and spiritually.

The work in the Pawtucket Library is an admirable example of the inestimable benefit to be derived from a children's reading-room.

In a thickly-settled manufacturing city hundreds of children roam the streets learning lessons in vice and degradation, and in after years develop into the thriftless candidates for the poor-house or jail.

The Pawtucket Library has dealt wisely with this class, and encouraged and welcomed the children to its reading-room to such an extent that the testimony of the police is unanimous regarding the powerful influence of the library for good.

It is the same work that the kindergarten is accomplishing in quickening thought and cultivating the moral sense, only it carries it on into the manhood and womanhood of the people, developing honest, industrious, intelligent

citizens in the place of paupers and criminals.

In more favored places the work is not less necessary. The temptations of vice are present everywhere, and everywhere need to be counteracted. Wealth furnishes no safeguard against them, and too often weakens if it does not destroy the mental and moral fibre of its owner.

It is the earnest, thoughtful men and women who are needed to carry forward the work of the world. Men and women whose minds have been trained and broadened by communion with the best thoughts of those who have preceded them preserved on the written page.

Keep this thought ever before you, that your work in your library must be a part of the great uplifting force at work at the present day which is making for a more honest, thoughtful, conscientious, intelligent national life.

Cherish the highest ideals of the possibilities of your profession. You cannot aim too high if by wise steps to attain your end you keep in touch with the little children and lead them to consider the library as much a part of their daily life as their homes and their schools.

PREPARING A BOOK FOR ISSUE; AND CHARGING SYSTEMS.

BY FRANK PIERCE HILL, LIBRARIAN, PUBLIC LIBRARY, NEWARK, N. J.

WHEN I acceded to the request of the program committee for a paper on the above subjects I supposed I was to describe the system or systems in use at Newark; but when, some four months later, I took up the matter seriously I found that I was expected to cover the whole ground. This discovery was made too late to permit me "to back out" gracefully, and so I took up the task glorying in the fact that the hardest part of the work had already been done by others.

If it will not be considered putting the cart before the horse I will first describe Charging Systems. The first report on Charging Systems was made by K. A. Linderfelt at the Cincinnati conference in 1882. (See L. J., 7: 178.)

The second and most important contribution on the subject was made by Mr. Henry J. Carr in 1889. In that year at the St. Louis confer-

ence a thorough and comprehensive report was made by Mr. Carr in his well-known exhaustive manner. At the outset I would refer you to the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 1889, 19: 203, for that report, and would call your special attention to the bibliography thereto attached.

The *Library Handbook*, prepared under the editorial supervision of Melvil Dewey, and issued by the U. S. Bureau of Education, contains Miss Mary Wright Plummer's admirable paper (constituting the fourth report), which brings the history of the subject down to 1893. What is left for me is to chronicle the doings since the Chicago or World's Fair conference.

And here again I am in clover, for I find that there has been but one important addition since, that of Miss Nina E. Browne, fully described in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 1895, 20: 168.

To finish with references I would advise you

the charging date on the left of the borrower's card—and the book is laid aside to be discharged at the pleasure of the slip-rack attendant.

At the end of the day the book-slips are taken from the drawer and arranged in a tray, (1) according to class, (2) alphabetically by book number, and the tray is put on the slip-rack table.

An attendant is constantly at work slipping the books which are brought over from the delivery-desk; *i.e.*, ascertaining from the book-pocket the date book was charged, then taking the book-slip from the tray and putting it in the pocket of its book; taking care that book and slip correspond as to class, book, and copy number.

Overdue books are indicated by the date-slips, the trays being moved along each day.

Under this system the borrower can tell, by looking at his card, on what day the book he has taken from the library; and the librarian can tell from the day's book-slips the amount and character of the circulation, and by reference from slips to the numerical register can ascertain name and address of borrowers to whom books are charged.

The pocket is not used for borrower's cards because of time wasted in putting in and taking out.

I am of opinion that Miss Browne's system is well adapted to libraries with small circulation. The only objection* to it that I can see is that the borrower must wait to have his book discharged. We all know that certain times of the day are busier than others, and, while it would be easy to discharge, without delay, all books at, say 10 a.m., it would be difficult to do so with the much larger number at 8 p.m. It is much quicker to stamp date three times and write reader's card number once than to discharge book by any known system, particularly in the busy part of the day. (It goes without saying that the time taken to get a book from the shelves is the same no matter what charging system is used.) With regard to sending "fine notices" the Browne system is quicker and easier, owing to its account with the borrower, but that is a matter which interests the statistical department of the library, not the borrower.

* Miss Browne states that there is no delay, therefore the objection is removed.

The aim of all charging systems is, or should be, to relieve the borrower of all trouble and delay. The library that succeeds in these two essentials is sure to satisfy its constituents.

TO RENEW A BOOK.

To renew a book without coming to the library the borrower should send a postal giving call number of book, the date on which the book was taken from the library, and the borrower's card number.

When the postal is received at the library the book-slip called for is found and taken from the tray, re-charged to the borrower, stamped with the current date, and filed with the day's slips; in its place is put a green "renewal" slip, giving date to which book has been renewed and other information (sample below).

Aug. 11, '96.

(FORM N.)

RENEWAL.

B

W 17

Card No.

Date.

65374

Aug. 26, '96.

Date.

Card No.

RENEWAL.

(FORM N.)

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

RENEWAL

Book B W 17 has been renewed for two weeks
from Aug. 26 as requested by you Aug. 26 1896

Respectfully yours

FRANK P. HILL,

Librarian.

**BRING THIS CARD WITH YOU
WHEN BOOK IS RETURNED.**

Notice is then sent by mail to the borrower that the book has been renewed (sample above.)

If request for renewal is made at the library, a manilla slip instead of postal-card containing the same information is given the borrower.

When the book itself is returned the renewal notice should accompany it, in order to save time of borrower by telling at once that it is not an overdue book.

TO RESERVE A BOOK.

Any book in the library (except fiction) may be reserved by the payment of two (2) cents. The *second* volume of a novel may be reserved in the same way.

When a request for a reserve is made, a postal addressed to the applicant is filled out with the necessary information, as shown in the sample below:

The accompanying "reserve" slip (red) is then filled out and placed with the regular book-slip in the charging-tray.

When the book is discharged attention is at once called to the "reserve," and the postal-card notice is completed and mailed to the applicant—the book being placed on the "reserve shelf."

A record is kept of the "reserves" by date, name, address, book reserved, and whether it was called for or not.

Form M.—1-95-1. A. P. H.

Book 332 H 25

No. 3

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Newark, N. J. _____ 189

The book asked for by you 27 Ag. '96

Vol. _____ is now in the library, and will be retained until

8.30 p. m. _____ 189

Respectfully yours,

FRANK P. HILL, Librarian.

BRING THIS CARD WITH YOU.

27 Aug. '96.

[FORM V.]

RESERVED

332 H 25

PREPARING A BOOK FOR ISSUE.

In as few words as possible I will mention the different stages through which a book passes (after reaching the library) before being ready for circulation :

1. Check invoice, indicating by letter the name of the attendant who checked it, and put price and source in some specified place in the book.
2. Check order-slip in order-drawer with invoice (order-book should not be used).
3. Cut leaves. (Collate only the more expensive works.)
4. Emboss fly-leaves, title-pages, full-page illustrations (if not too many to affect appearance of book), and three or four printed pages.
5. Paste book-plate on inside front cover.

6. Paste pocket (this pocket holds book-slip and has printed on it certain rules) on back of last fly-leaf, tipping the two upper corners and all the bottom edge. (Mistake to put pocket on cover, as stamping is quite likely to break it.)

7. Paste outside label, unless to be lettered by binder.

8. Write the source on book-plate.

9. Accession. Put accession number under embossing stamp on title-page.

10. Classify and give dictionary heads; and indicate if J or R.

11. Shelf-list (use cards rather than shelf-list book), putting class-book number and copy number on book-plate.

12. Write cards author, title, subject, and analyticals.

13. Revise — done by chief cataloger.

14. Insert book-slip in pocket and print class and book number on book-slip and pocket in red ink and on back label in black ink. (The letter J or R in red ink.)

15. Place a small label "new book" on pocket, to show that when returned book is to go on "new book table" rather than on shelf.

16. Paste seven days' notice on all juveniles and some fiction.

17. Put book on "new book table," ready for circulation.

18. Prepare dummy to take the place on the regular shelf for a book to go in the Reference Department.

In closing I wish to pay a tribute to a library, which, as a lender of books, will soon be out of existence, namely, the Middlesex Mechanics Association, of Lowell, Mass.

For many years its interests were looked after and its library affairs well governed by one of the most conscientious A. L. A. workers, Miss Mary E. Sargent.

It was in this library that I first saw the screw-lock which has since been applied by Newark and a few other libraries to magazine covers, newspaper files, and card cases. Here I first saw a *successful* sliding newspaper file which permitted the reader to adjust the paper so as to make the least strain on the eyes. This device is used at Newark, Worcester, Paterson, and several other places.

If for no other reasons than the above mentioned the Middlesex Mechanics Association should be remembered and its name handed down to perpetuity.

REPORT ON THE CONGRESS OF WOMEN LIBRARIANS AT ATLANTA.

BY MISS ALICE B. KROEGER, LIBRARIAN, DREXEL INSTITUTE, PHILADELPHIA.

THE Cotton States and International Exposition, which was held in Atlanta, Georgia, during the fall months of 1895, was the occasion of many congresses on various subjects, few of which, however, were more important than the Congress of Women Librarians, since it created an interest in the public library movement which promises to be productive in the future of its greater development in the South.

The Congress had for its object to stimulate library growth in the South. The programs, which were so admirably arranged by Miss Anne Wallace, librarian of the Young Men's Association Library, of Atlanta, and chairman of the Congress, included papers on the various phases of library history and management which especially brought forward the broad educational side of the free public library and its advantages to every community.

The sessions of the Congress were held in the assembly hall of the Woman's Building, on November 29 and 30, under the auspices of the Board of Women Managers. At the first session, on Friday, November 29, Mrs. Porter King, chairman of the library committee, made the opening address and introduced Miss Wallace, who presided as chairman of the Congress. In her address, Miss Wallace called attention to the lack of a proper library law in the larger number of the southern states, which in some measure accounted for their lack of free libraries. The Association Library, with its nominal fee, must be maintained and strengthened until legislation towards a direct tax for the foundation and support of public libraries can be made. Miss Wallace further urged the establishment of state library associations in the South, on account of the benefits to be obtained by the union of interests and the exchange of ideas and experiences.

The papers of this session included: "The public libraries of America," by Miss Hannah P. James, librarian of the Osterhout Library, Wilkes Barre, Pa.; "Library training schools," prepared by Miss Mary W. Plummer, librarian of the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, which was read

by Miss Miller, of Boston; "Libraries of the West," prepared by Mrs. Carrie W. Whitney, librarian of the Kansas City Public Library, read by Mrs. Moses Wadley, of Augusta, Ga. At the second session, on Saturday, November 30, the following papers were read: "Library work in its relation to the public school," by Miss Mary P. Sargent, librarian of the Public Library, Medford, Mass.; "The American Library Association," by Miss Alice B. Kroeger, librarian of the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia; "Classification, catalogs, and modern library appliances," by Miss Nina E. Browne, of the Library Bureau, Boston.

The importance of a close relation between the public library and the public school; the value of a special training in library science for the carrying out of the highest ideal of the library as an educator; the method available in executing the best ideas in administration as furnished by the appliances and conveniences in use in the best libraries; the history of libraries in this country and of library associations; together with experiences in starting small libraries, furnished many themes of interest to those who attended the meetings. Among the interested visitors to the Congress at the second session was Mrs. M. French Sheldon, who spoke briefly on the relation of the librarian to the publisher. The attendance at the meetings was not large, but it included librarians from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Alabama, and Nebraska.

That the papers should be more widespread in their usefulness and in the purpose for which the Congress was intended, the promotion of library interests in the South, the United States Commissioner of Education will print them for general circulation.

An exhibit of library appliances, including a card catalog of the library of the Woman's Building and many library supplies and devices from the Library Bureau, formed an interesting feature of the library-room, which adjoined the assembly hall.

A reception tendered the visiting librarians

by Mrs. Porter King, on the afternoon of November 29, afforded a pleasant opportunity to meet socially many friends to the library cause in Atlanta. Another delightful reception on the evening of November 30 was held in honor of the librarians by the board of directors of the Young Men's Association Library, at the library building, which is admirably adapted to such a social affair, as it was formerly an old southern mansion, with spacious halls and rooms.

Several of the northern librarians remained for some days after the adjournment of the Congress, in order to see more thoroughly the beautiful Exposition grounds and buildings and to visit the libraries and other points of interest in Atlanta. The State Library and the Young

Men's Association Library are the two large libraries of Atlanta, and they showed by the use made of their valuable collections the importance they hold in the intellectual life of the city.

The growth of the South in material prosperity within the past 20 years has been accompanied by improved school facilities. With the increased advantages for education must come the need for the public library to supplement and continue the work of the school. So from the Congress of Librarians at Atlanta it is hoped will arise new efforts to obtain for every town in the South the opportunity for greater intellectual activity which comes from the possession of a library free to every person in the community.

REPORT ON GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

BY MISS CAROLINE M. HEWINS, LIBRARIAN, HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY.

OF 226 answers received to 500 postal-cards sent to libraries all over the country, 80 report no gifts or bequests of money or books, and a few others less than a \$100 or 100 volumes. The others show that in the two years covered by the report, from June, 1894, to June, 1896, nearly \$2,500,000 in money have been given to libraries, buildings worth nearly \$1,000,000 have been erected for the housing of books, more than 100,000 volumes have been added to the libraries of the country by gift and bequest, and pictures, statues, bric-à-brac, coins, and manuscripts whose value cannot be estimated, have also been bestowed upon them.

In the whole mass of letters and pamphlets that have come in reply to a question regarding what has been given to libraries within two years, there are several that are most suggestive and worthy of imitation.

In a town library stands a plain bookcase, of the best wood and workmanship, filled with copies of the favorite books of a girl whose appreciation of the best in literature was only one of the noble traits of her character. She died in 1894, and her young friends gave case and books as a memorial of her to be placed in the library of her native town as a silent incentive to the boys and girls coming after her to live up to her standard.

In a hill-town in a New England state there is a memorial building, the gift of one brother to the memory of another, through whose efforts pure cold water now comes into every house in the town from a neighboring mountain. This building houses a library that had fallen into disuse, and a sister of the two brothers, who spends long summers in the town, has brought back its old-time reputation as a thinking and reading community by inviting the farmers and their wives in the neighborhood to study English history with her. A member of the family said to me that the strength and keenness of mind which they show in their papers on historical subjects is most unexpected, and that the whole community has felt the effects of the new impulse to thought and reading. It is hard to say which will be in future years the greater blessing, the supply of pure mountain water, freeing the town from danger of drought and pestilence, or the library, broadening the horizon of men, women, and children.

In another town, a memorial library building is the centre of all social life. A hall, with a stage and a concert-grand piano, and a well-furnished kitchen, invite the scattered families of outlying districts to pleasant, social evenings in the long winters, and a chime from the clock-

tower rings out every hour an air from "Parsifal" that is heard for miles among the lonely hills and over the quiet lakes that lie between them.

In one city a woman has left half of her by no means large estate in recognition of the pleasure she had derived from the library and of the kindness she had received from all connected with it. One man gave the public library of his city his \$500 salary as mayor, and another the sum, not stated, that he received for filling the offices of selectman and overseer of the poor.

All the libraries that I have mentioned are in New England, and I speak of them not because there are not others like them in states beyond the Hudson, but for the reason that they have come under my own personal observation or knowledge. The unfairness of any statement of gifts and bequests made for the whole country by one person cannot fail to impress every one who tries to obtain statistics concerning them. It is as difficult for a librarian in the East to keep in touch with libraries in states outside his own as for our president or secretary to find the library items in newspapers published in the smaller cities of Connecticut which one of my assistants cuts and pastes every week. The new magazine, *Public Libraries*, has a large field for gathering up information on gifts, bequests, and new libraries in the West. Even then, the influence of the library spirit upon givers of libraries cannot be told in figures. A man who has grown rich may give a library in his will to his native town, that children of future generations may enjoy the pleasures which he lacked, but it is not always that he or his family can or will teach the townspeople how to enjoy these pleasures. An account of what a library that has been given is actually doing, the use made of the building and books, or their influence on the social life of the neighborhood, can be written only by some one who has seen it.

The LIBRARY JOURNAL's returns of gifts and bequests are incomplete, even for the East.

Many postal-cards sent out asking for information never receive answers. I wish to suggest the appointment now and here of a librarian or library trustee in every state who will be responsible for the news of that state concerning gifts and bequests to libraries, and send all items collected during the year at least three months before the annual meeting of the A. L. A. to the person appointed by the executive committee to report upon them.

This had been written when a letter came from our president asking me to say something about methods of interesting wealthy people in libraries, and persuading them to leave books and money to libraries in their wills. Once in a while a librarian like Dr. William Rice, of Springfield, Massachusetts, who has a genius for persuading his rich friends to give or leave their worldly goods to the city library, may be found among librarians, but the profession has not many of them. The most successful getter of money for library and church whom I have ever known is a minister who had a thorough business training before he went to college. The same kind of tact and adaptation that makes a good salesman must be brought into play in dealing with prospective benefactors to libraries. The every-day librarian who does not combine business address with other good gifts of nature, and has little time to present arguments or subtle flatteries to the millionaires of his town, must content himself with making his library necessary to their comfort and well-being. If there are lawyers on the board of trustees, they can sometimes say a good word for the library when a rich man or woman with no children or needy relations makes a will. Our own library once received \$13,000 and several hundred books through the kind suggestion of a lawyer when drawing up the will of a man who did not know where to bestow the money that he could not take with him, and half a dozen other institutions in the city are enjoying an income from the same source to-day.

STATE.	CITY OR TOWN.	NAME OF LIBRARY.	GIFT OR REQUEST.	SOURCE.	Amount in Money.	No. Vols. in Books and Pamphlets.	MANUSCRIPTS, PICTURES, ETC.	Land at Valued at	Building at Valued at	CONDITIONS OR REMARKS.
California.....	Berkeley.....	University of California.....	Gift.....	Various sources.....	.....	11,636	.....	.....	.....	{ 1,410 volumes from Mrs. Sarah P. Wadsworth, of Oakland.
	Sacramento.....	Sacramento Free Public Library.....	Bequest.....	Newton Booth.....	.....	1,500	.....	.....	.....	Bequest of 1893, not reported in 1894.
	San Diego.....	San Diego Public Library.....	Gift.....	Not stated.....	.....	125	.....	.....	.....	Not stated.
	Boulder.....	State Preparatory School.....	Gift.....	Not stated.....	\$1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	Not stated.
Colorado.....	Colorado Springs.....	Coburn Library.....	Gift.....	Not stated.....	.....	1,000	.....	.....	.....	Not stated.
	La Junta.....	Young Folks' Library.....	Gift.....	Not stated.....	1,500	.....	.....	.....	.....	Including \$500 from School Board.
Connecticut.....	Branford.....	Blackstone Memorial.....	Gift.....	Timothy B. Blackstone.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$300,000	Memorial to Capt. James Blackstone.
	Bridgeport.....	Bridgeport Public Library...	Bequest..	{ Francis Ives..... { Susan A. Adams.....	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	"One-half of her estate in recognition of the pleasure she had derived from the library and of the kindness she had received from all connected with it."
	Bristol.....	Free Public Library.....	Bequest..	{ Julia M. Tompkins..... { Andrew Ingraham..... { O. B. Ives.....	5,000 100 1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	{ Payable after expiration of a life estate.
	Brooklyn.....	Brooklyn Library Association	Gift.....	Not stated.....	.....	159	.....	.....	.....	Not stated.
	Cheshire.....	Cheshire Public Library.....	Bequest..	Not stated.....	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	Not stated.
	Danielson.....	Danielson Public Library.....	Gift.....	Not stated.....	.....	107	.....	.....	.....	Not stated.
	Enfield.....	Enfield Public Library.....	Gift.....	{ Mrs. Anson Phelps..... { Stokes.....	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	Not stated.
	Granby.....	Cossitt Library.....	Gift.....	Not stated.....	200	.....	.....	.....	.....	To build horse-sheds.
	Greenwich.....	Bill Memorial Library.....	Gift.....	Hon. Frederick Bill.....	10,000	.....	.....	.....	25,000	Memorial to Mrs. Jeremiah Milbank.
	Groton.....	Case Memorial Library.....	Gift.....	Various sources.....	700	.....	.....	.....	.....	Including Patterson collection of books and manuscripts, purchased by private subscription.
	Hartford.....	Connecticut Historical Society	.....	Various sources.....	.....	2,639	200 Manuscripts	.....	.....	From expiration of life interest.
	"	Hartford Public Library.....	Gift.....	Various sources.....	.....	500	.....	.....	.....	The building is the gift of Henry W. Taylor in memory of his wife.
	"	Trinity College.....	Gift.....	Various sources.....	.....	935	.....	.....	.....	The books and money were given by his friends and also by old residents or descendants of residents of the town.
	"	Watkinson Library.....	Bequest..	David Watkinson.....	7,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	Middletown.....	Wesleyan University.....	Gift.....	Alumni and friends.....	14,000	4,000	.....	.....	.....	
	Milford.....	Taylor Memorial Library.....	Gift.....	Various sources.....	150	7,200	.....	.....	25,000	
	Naugatuck.....	Howard Whittemore Library.	Gift.....	Whittemore family.....	550	.....	.....	.....	.....	Books include Count Riant's Scandinavian collection, 6,000 volumes, and 19,000 dissertations of the Swedish University, and parts of the linguistic library of Prof. W. D. Whitney and the geological library of Prof. J. D. Dana. The income of the Sloane bequest of \$195,000 has been assigned by the corporation to the library.
	New Haven.....	Yale University.....	Gift.....	Various sources.....	20,000	11,000	{ Early printed books and manuscripts.....	.....	.....	
	"	"	Gift.....	J. M. Sears.....	.....	7,000	.....	.....	.....	
	"	"	Gift.....	Various sources.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	In memory of his mother, Mary Bradley Andrews.
	North Haven.....	Bradley Library Association.	Bequests.	{ Judson B. Andrews..... { Isaac L. Stiles.....	1,000 1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	Memorial case of books to Louisa Lord.
	Old Saybrook.....	Acton Library.....	Gifts.....	Various sources.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	

Portland.....	Buck Library.....	Gift.....	2,500.....	Horace B. Buck.....	3,500.....	38,000.....	{ Conditional on naming Buck Li- brary.
Ridgefield.....	Library Corporation.....	Gift.....	10,000.....	Not stated.....	650.....	.....	{ Conditional on the appropriation of the same sum by the town.
Rockville.....	Rockville Public Library.....	Bequest.....	.....	George Maxwell.....	.....	.....	{ Including land. Building has clock tower, chime, audience hall (with stage and concert-grand piano), and a well-appointed kitchen.
Salisbury.....	Scoville Memorial Library.....	Gift.....	.....	{ Heirs of Jonathan & N. C. Scoville.. }	3,500.....	31,000.....	{ Includes land and furniture.
Shelton.....	Plumb Memorial Library.....	Gift.....	10,000.....	Amos R. Eno.....	.....	.....	.....
Simsbury.....	Simsbury Free Library.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	Mrs. Wm. Whitney.....	.....	.....	.....
Somers.....	Somers Public Library.....	Gift.....	2,000.....	Various sources.....	7,500.....	.....	.....
Southport.....	Pequot Library.....	Gift.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stafford Springs.....	Stafford Springs Library As- sociation.....	.....	500.....	Harriet G. Crane.....	.....	6,000.....	{ Building and land the gift of Mrs. { Cyril Johnson.
Stamford.....	Ferguson Library.....	Bequest.....	100.....	Not stated.....	.....	30,000.....	{ Including land.
Stratford.....	Stratford Library Association.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	{ Birdseye Blakeman, for books..... { John Sterling, for books.....	.....	.....	.....
Torrington.....	Torrington Library.....	Gift.....	100.....	Mrs. Lauren Wetmore.....	.....	.....	.....
West Hartford.....	West Hartford Free Library.....	Gift.....	1,035.....	Not stated.....	.....	.....	.....
Hockessin.....	Hockessin.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	Levis A. Lamborn.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilmington.....	Wilmington Institute.....	Gift.....	6,300.....	Various sources.....	452.....	.....	.....
Champaign.....	Burnham Athenaeum.....	Gift.....	45,000.....	Albert C. Burnham.....	.....	.....	.....
Chicago.....	John Crerar Library.....	Bequest.....	1,851,113.....	John Crerar.....	264.....	.....	.....
".....	University of Chicago.....	Gift.....	5,734.....	Various sources.....	.....	.....	.....
Evanston.....	Northwestern University.....	Gift.....	1,047.....	Various sources.....	1,047.....	.....	.....
Galena.....	Galena.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	B. F. Felt.....	1,000.....	.....	.....
Loda.....	Loda.....	Gift.....	.....	{ Mrs. A. H. Smith..... { A. Goodell.....	.....	.....	.....
Quincy.....	Quincy Public Library.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	Not stated.....	247.....	.....	.....
New Harmony.....	Workingmen's Institute.....	Gift.....	2,000.....	Not stated.....	.....	.....	.....
Burlington.....	Workingmen's Institute.....	Gift.....	.....	P. M. Crapo.....	.....	20,000.....	.....
Independence.....	Free Public Library.....	Bequest.....	500.....	{ Perry Munson..... { J. B. Jones..... { G. Warne.....	.....	15,000.....	.....
Ottumwa.....	Ottumwa Library Association.....	Bequest.....	26,000.....	Peter G. Ballingall.....	.....	.....	For books. { The library is to receive \$200 a year until \$26,000 is accumulated from the administration of other bequests, when it will also have one-fourth of the income of property willed to the city. { The complete and valuable library of Dr. W. G. Hammond.
Iowa City.....	State University.....	Gift.....	.....	{ Mrs. W. G. Hammond..... { D. T. Talbot.....	.....	.....	For books.
Topeka.....	Topeka Free Library.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	W. K. Gillett.....	4,500.....	.....	{ Bowdoin gift. To establish a special collection relating to the Huguenots.
New Orleans.....	Howard Memorial Library.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	Mrs. A. T. Howard.....	.....	.....	For building fund.
Brunswick.....	Bowdoin College.....	Gift.....	1,000.....	{ Geo. S. Bowdoin..... { Robert C. Windthrop.....	.....	.....	Source of money not stated.
Baltimore.....	Peabody Institute.....	Bequest.....	1,000.....	Various sources.....	1,445.....	.....	His salary as mayor.
Annesbury.....	Public Library.....	Gift.....	132.....	Not stated.....	250.....	.....	{ Including many architectural books of great value.
Arlington.....	Robbins Library.....	Gift.....	100.....	Winfield Robbins.....	.....	.....	{ Both expended for books on early colonial history for reference.
Beverly.....	Beverly.....	Gift.....	500.....	John I. Baker.....	.....	.....	For a building.
Boston.....	Mass. Institute of Technology.....	Both.....	.....	Not stated.....	793.....	.....	For music library.
Brockton.....	Brockton.....	Bequest.....	500.....	{ Chas. L. Hathaway..... { Descendants of Samuel Packard.. }	.....	.....	.....
Brookfield.....	Brookfield.....	Bequest.....	300.....	Mary W. Hyde.....	.....	.....	.....
Brookline.....	Brookline.....	Gift.....	20,000.....	Not stated.....	.....	.....	.....
Cambridge.....	Cambridge Public Library.....	Gift.....	100.....	Various sources.....	1,230.....	.....	.....

STATE.	CITY OR TOWN.	NAME OF LIBRARY.	GIFT OR BEQUEST.	SOURCE.	Amount in money.	No. Vols. in Pamphlets.	MANUSCRIPTS, PICTURES, ETC.	Land Valued at	Building Valued at	CONDITION OR REMARKS.
Massachusetts.	Carlisle.	Gleason Library.	Gift.	Joanna Gleason.	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,000	.....
	Chatham.	Chatham Public Library.	Gift.	Marcellus Eldridge.	.....	.....	.....	.....	30,000	.....
	Chelmsford.	.....	Gift.	{ Amos Francis } Adams.	.....	.....	.....	.....	30,000	.....
	Chelsea.	Fitz Public Library.	Gift.	{ Thos. F. Adams } T. P. Proctor.	500 500	.....	.....	.....	.....	The gifts of Mr. T. F. Adams and Mr. Proctor were for books.
	Concord.	Concord Free Public Library.	Bequest.	Not stated.	.....	631	.....	.....	.....	Furniture, 200 books and as many magazines as needed for a children's Reading-room.
	Danvers.	Peabody Institute Library.	Gift.	E. Rockwood Hoar.	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Dedham.	Dedham Public Library.	Bequest.	Trustee.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Easthampton.	Frederick E. Parlin Memorial Library.	Gift.	{ Rebecca Guild } Richards.	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Everett.	Groton Public Library.	Bequest.	Not stated.	20,000	457	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Groton.	Groton Public Library.	Bequest.	Mr. and Mrs. Parlin.	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Haverhill.	.....	Bequest.	Luther P. Blood.	.....	.....	.....	.....	21,000	Income to be used for books.
	Heath.	Heath Free Public Library.	Bequest.	James H. Carleton.	15,000	672 2	oil paintings	.....	.....	Money payable after expiration of life interest. The books are from other sources.
	Hingham.	Hingham Public Library.	Bequest.	Not stated.	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	To be used for a library building.
	Kingston.	Lend a Hand Club.	Bequest.	William Leavitt.	2,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	Income to be expended for books.
	Lancaster.	Lancaster Public Library.	Gifts.	Frederick C. Adams.	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	To buy books.
	Lawrence.	Lawrence Public Library.	Gift.	Not stated.	.....	1548	.....	.....	.....	About \$50,000 is given to the town for a hall and public library; \$5,000 as a permanent fund for the maintenance of the library.
	Leicester.	Leicester Public Library.	Gift.	Pacific Corporation.	5,000	5,000	.....	.....	.....	The money is a permanent fund for the maintenance of the library.
New York.	Leicester.	Leicester Public Library.	Bequest.	{ Leroy S. Watson } Pliny S. Earle.	6,000	.....	.....	.....	30,000	Stephen Earle, architect of the building, gave his services.
	Lenox.	Lenox Library.	.....	Various sources.	225	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Leominster.	Leominster Public Library.	Gifts.	{ Alva A. Burrage } and wife.	5,000	1,039	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Littleton.	Reuben Hoar Library.	.....	{ Joel W. Stearns } Children of Wm.	250	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Marlboro.	Marlboro Public Library.	.....	{ Stevens Hough- } ton.	.....	234	.....	.....	25,000	.....
	Milton.	Milton Public Library.	Gift.	Various sources.	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	To be called J. McKean Churchill fund.
	Nantucket.	Nantucket Athenæum.	Bequest.	Augusta Churchill.	2,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Natick.	Morse Institute Library.	Gift.	Eliza S. Nevins.	.....	207	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Newburyport.	Newburyport Public Library.	Bequest.	Various sources.	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Newton.	Newton Free Library.	Bequest.	{ Eben F. Stone } W. O. Mosely.	10,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	North Adams.	North Adams Free Public Li- brary.	Bequest.	{ Hannah P. James } Mrs. N. P. Coburn.	.....	105	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Northborough.	Gale Library.	Gift.	{ Fam. of J. S. Farlow } A. C. Houghton.	.....	.....	Marble statue Marble statue.	.....	75,000	For public library, reading and his- torical rooms in memory of A. J. Houghton.
	Northampton.	.....	Gift.	Cyrus Gale.	1,000	.....	.....	.....	32,000	For classification and cataloging.
	Northampton.	.....	Gift.	Mrs. Cyrus Gale.	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Northampton.	.....	Bequest.	Not stated.	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Northampton.	.....	Bequest.	Not stated.	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

[illegible]

STATE.	CITY OR TOWN.	NAME OF LIBRARY.	GIFT OR BEQUEST	SOURCE.	Amount in Money.	No. Vols. in Books and Pamphlets.	MANUSCRIPTS, PICTURES, ETC.	Land Valued at	Building Valued at	CONDITIONS OR REMARKS.
New York.	Gloversville.	Gloversville Free Library.	Bequest.	{ Isaac V. Place A. J. Kasson Chas. H. Williams. Judge and Mrs. Robt. Earle. Alumni of Union School and Academy Harriet E. Carlton J. L. Grandin. George Kimbal. Various sources. Mrs. Geo. F. Porter.	11,135 25,000 5,000	.....	{ House, value not stated.	.....	.....	{ In memory of Sherman Williams; \$500 for books and shelving; \$4,500 as endowment.
	Herkimer.	Herkimer Free Library.	Gift.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Ilion.	Ilion Free Public Library.	Gift.	.....	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Jamestown.	James Prendergast Free Li- brary.	Gift.	.....	2,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Newburgh.	Newburgh Free Library.	Gift.	.....	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	New York.	New York Free Circulating Library.	Bequest.	.....	.....	370	.....	.....	.....	Valuable books on art and science.
	Skaneateles.	Skaneateles Library.	Gift.	.....	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Syracuse.	Syracuse Central Library.	Bequest.	.....	1,000	.....	{ Portrait of Rev. Samuel J. May, bought for \$500; fine colored pho- tographs, etc.	.....	.....	.....
	Troy.	Troy Young Men's Associa- tion.	Gift.	{ Mrs. Wm. Howard Hart Hon. Thos. Coleman. Not stated.	1,000 3,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	From library of Roscoe Conkling. \$250 a year for five years.
	Utica.	Utica Public Library.	Gift.	{ Civil Eng. Club. Various sources. H. C. Hatch.	1,250 100,000	1000 700	.....	.....	.....	For library building and books.
Ohio.	Cleveland.	Case Library.	Gift.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	"	Western Reserve University. Public Library and Museum.	Gift.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	{ Also, sum not stated for building fund.
	Dayton.	Dayton Wesleyan University.	Gift.	{ M. J. Cramer. Charles E. Slocum. Not stated.	 500	939 5000 .....	.....	50,000	.....	.....
	Hillsboro.	Hillsboro Public Library.	Gift.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Portsmouth.	Portsmouth Public Library.	Gift.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Toledo.	Toledo Public Library.	Gift.	.....	.....	300	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Altoona.	Mechanics' Library and Read- ing-Room.	Gift.	.....	.....	150	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Doylestown.	Doylestown Library Co.	Gift.	.....	3,100	.....	.....	.....	.....	Part in cash, part in its equivalent. { \$10,000 for land and building; \$50, 000 to be invested and income used for non-sectarian books.
	Germanstown.	Friends' Free Library.	Bequest.	.....	10,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	For addition to library building. { \$10,000 to be invested, and income spent for books; \$50,000 as nucleus of building fund.
	Harrisburg.	Harrisburg Public Library.	Bequest.	Sara J. Healey.	10,000	.....	.....	.....	50,000	Bound volumes of music.
Pennsylvania.	Johnstown.	Cambria Free Library.	Gift.	A. J. Howe.	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Philadelphia.	Drexel Institute.	Bequest.	Chas. H. Jarvis.	4,000	1000	.....	.....	.....	.....
	"	Free Library.	Bequest.	Robert G. White. Robt. S. White. George S. Pepper.	4,100 200,000	22000 ..... .....	.....	.....	.....	In 1893, not previously reported. 1,000 volumes, Prof. Emerich Smith- gan's estate. A complete set of Hansard's Par- liamentary Debates. For purchase of books, conditional on erection of library building within ten years.
	"	Library Company.	Bequest.	.....	1,750	2200	.....	.....	.....	{ Fully equipped library and reading- room.
	"	University of Pennsylvania.	Gift.	William W. Potter.	.....	459	.....	.....	.....	In Walker Memorial Building, giv- en by Henry F. Walker, M.D., in memory of Stephen A. Walker. As endowment fund.
	Youngstown.	Youngstown Public Library.	Bequest.	Charles D. Arms.	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Newport.	Redwood Library.	Bequest.	{ LeRoy S. King Wm. G. Weld.	1,000 1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Lead City.	.....	.....	Phœbe A. Hearst.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Pittsford.	Maclure Library.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Grand Rapids.	.....	Gift.	.....	1,600	158	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vermont.	Milwaukee.	Milwaukee Public Library.	Gift.	J. D. Cutler.	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wisconsin.	Oconomowoc.	Oconomowoc Public Library.	Gift.	Louise Schandlein. E. C. Simmons.	 300	.....	{ Carl Marr's paint- ing "The Fla- gellants" value \$15,000.	.....	.....	.....

THE LIBRARIAN'S ANNUAL REPORT.

BY MISS CAROLINE HARWOOD GARLAND, LIBRARIAN, PUBLIC LIBRARY, DOVER, N. H.

IT is usually with a profound sigh that the librarian sits down to write his annual report. That the thing must be done and he must do it, is the combination of facts which compels action. Without this force many of us would willingly omit the annual ceremony.

But the annual report is just as much an opportunity as it is a necessity. Like all inevitable things, while it must be met it may be used. Like all inevitables, too, it is only through a thorough knowledge of its requirements that one aims at an understanding of its possibilities.

First, then, the librarian will set himself to consider what a report ought to show. He will remember that it is to be not only the vehicle of information to the present reader, but that the set is to go on record in the city accounts and is to constitute a history of the library. With a laudable desire to do this work as well as possible, the young librarian will probably try to make use of the experience of those older in the profession, and in search of an approved model will have recourse to the printed library reports within his reach. Among these exists no uniformity. Many years ago there was a plan for statistics formulated and published in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. This table seems to provide for everything necessary, yet very few librarians follow it. Again and again suggestions have been made in the *JOURNAL* that a plan be presented which shall be generally adopted. This, however, will depend not so much on the plan as on librarians. It is no part of this brief paper to attempt to outline such a plan. That should be the result of suggestions from different sources, and should be carefully adapted by varying degrees of elaboration to both the large and the small libraries.

But with or without this plan, there are certain statistics which should always be presented clearly :

1. The year's circulation of books; the different classes, the home use, the library use, the school use, the reference use, and the total.

2. The year's additions; by gift, by purchase, by binding; the number of losses, and the total number in the library.

3. The number of borrowers.

4. The receipts and expenditures, itemized.

This last account is more often the duty of the treasurer of the board of trustees than the librarian.

The arrangement is not vital, though it is better to be logical.

The necessary statistics being prepared, the next step is the writing of the text. The librarian should now look to his opportunities. He will remember that his report reaches a class of city politicians and ward managers who seldom learn much in any other way of the work of the library. Members of the city government frequently will read a city report when they pass by all other forms of information. The librarian, then, will count it one of his privileges that once a year he may address a class in the community whom he does not reach ordinarily, yet upon whom the financial welfare of the library may depend. He will remember that interest is at the root of activity, and he will therefore try to interest this class and make of it a friend to the library; and one need not be wily, one need only be wise, to try to put his report in such a form that the reader shall be interested as well as instructed.

The report, too, often may be made the means of telling in permanent form to the trustees whatever the librarian wishes them to know. Notwithstanding the fact that every year trustees and librarians are drawing nearer one another and together are making rapid steps forward for the welfare of their libraries, yet it is true that sometimes a librarian desires to tell his trustees something. Here is his opportunity. Clearly and simply, often with insistence and persistence, never peevishly, but always with dignity, he may put on record that which he desires his board to apprehend; and he may set forth needs and desirabilities and may make suggestions with a certainty of attention that is secured in no other way.

After he has decided upon his material—and if he is wise he has been keeping in some pigeon-hole of his desk memoranda made through the year while things were happening—the next thing to consider is the manner of its

presentation. Just here many librarians go astray.

A comparison of reports reveals a remarkable similarity of fault. What James Lane Allen says of men in one of his books may, with equal truth, be applied to annual reports—"they vary in their virtues but are singularly alike in their transgressions." After doing a little reading, the observer comes to the conclusion that the success of written work depends no less upon what is said than upon what is left unsaid. He will, therefore, in writing his own report leave out several things.

1. He will leave out the personal element. That is, he will not say, "I think," "it seems to me," or the like; nor will he bring in his own personality at all.

2. He will avoid any expression of discouragement, even while being truthful and looking serious facts square in the face.

3. He will avoid such phrases, especially at the beginning, as, "This year has been an eventful one in the history of the library." In the first place this ought not to be true, and if it be true the librarian certainly should not tell of it.

4. He will try to avoid the common errors of English.

5. He will not make a mistake in its length, knowing that if it is too short it lacks dignity, and if too long it becomes tedious.

But nothing ever attains a high degree of excellence by mere avoidance of error. There must be definite design in composition. So with his material before him, and the point that he wishes to make well in mind, he will do well before beginning to write to make an outline. In this way he can consider well his arrangement, putting related facts together and letting different points follow in logical order.

He will remember that the emphatic part of a sentence is the last part and that the place for his important paragraph is at the end; and then knowing that the ear sometimes detects what the eye fails to recognize, when he has completed his work let him read it over aloud. After this he will perhaps do well to look over half a dozen of his exchanges and see whether they contain suggestions for him. Of course this may be done in the beginning; but then there is danger that the writer will follow along his neighbor's lines instead of developing his own resources.

At last, having completed his work to the best of his ability, it will be ready to read to the trustees, to present to the city government, to furnish to the newspapers, to send to his brother librarians, and to go on record for the future antiquarian. Then if he is really wise the librarian will demand of himself one more little report. This last is of himself to himself. He will not make it when he is either exhilarated or down-hearted, or when he is weary, but some time in his ordinary habit he will do well to ask himself, simply and honestly, neither underrating nor over-valuing himself in his replies, questions something like these:

Am I doing easily this year what last year I could do only with difficulty? This is the test of growth of capacity.

Am I seeing this year possibilities that I have never seen before? This is the test of growth of ideal.

Am I being reached by and am I reaching persons whom until now I have found it difficult to get on with? This is the test of growth in intelligent sympathy. It is the highest of all attainments. It is therefore most difficult to acquire.

A PROPOSITION FOR AN AMERICAN LIBRARIES' CLEARING-HOUSE.

To the American Library Association:

The suggestion is, that the Government of the United States create an American libraries' clearing-house, to be administered by the United States Commissioner of Education. Said office to be a centre of communication and distribution between American libraries, and especially perform, as a domestic distributing medium, the same mission that has fallen to the Smithsonian Institution in regard to foreign libraries. The clearing-house to be the centre of distribution to American libraries of such books and pamphlets as are put free of charge at its disposal.

There are printed every year many small books and pamphlets at the expense of the authors, without the least hope of sale, or distribution through the booksellers. Nine-tenths of the copies lie idle and a burden to the author in his residence, while any library would gladly accept a copy, if presented free of charge. A pamphlet in itself is usually a trifle, but a collection of pamphlets on a certain subject sometimes becomes a very valuable resource for literary or scientific research. The establishment of such a clearing-house would make available many pamphlets which cannot now be purchased. The trade handles very few pamphlets, as it does not pay publishers to print them nor retailers to sell them. Most of these little books are at present wasted, while a collection of them in a library would furnish very useful information on "questions of the day" of their time. For instance, how valuable now are the pamphlets of the Abolition period, and how glad libraries would be to possess some of the thousands that have been wasted or destroyed. The numerous leaflets of 1885-'95 on the tariff and the silver question, if collected and preserved, will in years to come be very interesting in connection with the political history of

the time. Besides pamphlets, many books are printed every year at authors' expense, good books, although the author found no publisher to accept the risk of publication. These find a limited sale, because not handled commercially, through the regular channels of trade, and the author would gladly donate the unsold copies to the libraries through the proposed clearing-house. Discouraged by the failure of his publishing enterprise, he does not care to incur the extra expense of distributing them to libraries through the mails. An edition of 3000 small pamphlets at two cents each would make a cost of \$60; heavier books of five cents postage, \$150. This is deemed too much after the loss for printing outlay. To such authors an American libraries' clearing-house, through which they could give their books to the libraries, would be a great relief, and the libraries would be greatly enriched.

It should be understood that the clearing-house would have the right to accept or refuse all offers at its own discretion, *i. g.*, it would refuse pamphlets which are nothing but common libels, those limited to local interest entirely, or published by demented persons. Should the clearing-house be established, its aims and purposes should be made known through the press, especially its readiness to distribute free of charge, to American libraries, books in any quantity. The clearing-house would then find its way to communicate with the libraries on the newly-offered books, as well as on the books that many libraries would be glad to exchange, because they possess larger quantities than necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

ADOLF HEPNER,

Editor "St. Louis Tageblatt."

STATE AID TO LIBRARIES.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE AID TO LIBRARIES.

[Compiled for the committee by George M. Lee, assistant in the Public Library, Denver.

Send additions and corrections to Caroline M. Hewins, Public Library, Hartford, Conn., secretary of the committee.]

THE committee wishes to incorporate in this report, in its final form, information in regard to those states in which a state aid law is contemplated or an attempt has been made to secure one, as well as those in which state aid legislation has been adopted. Information is also desired about attempts to pass a state law permitting towns to tax themselves.

This circular has been of necessity hastily compiled. It will, consequently, be found incomplete and incorrect in many particulars. It should be considered as a first draft only:

ALABAMA. — No state aid.

ARIZONA. — No state aid.

ARKANSAS. — No state aid.

CALIFORNIA. — No state library commission. Ten per cent. of the school fund annually apportioned, not to exceed \$50 in any case, is available for district libraries. Such libraries are free to pupils and open to residents, who pay fee required by school authorities.

COLORADO. — No state aid. Cities, towns, and school districts may establish public libraries. The Colorado State Library Association has appointed a committee on library legislation. The committee will present a bill to the Legislature, meeting in January, 1897, providing for the appointment and maintenance of a state library commission.

CONNECTICUT. — Library Committee since 1893. The Committee is appointed annually by the state Board of Education, and the members serve without pay.

If any town having no free public library will establish one, and comply with the law, the Committee is authorized to expend for books selected by them a sum not to exceed the sum expended by the town, and not to exceed \$200. The Committee may also expend annually for books selected by them, for any town, a sum not to exceed the annual library appropriation of that town, and not to exceed \$100.

40 towns have established free public libraries since the Committee has been organized.

For further information address Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Hartford, Conn.

DELAWARE. — No state aid.

FLORIDA. — No state aid.

GEORGIA. — No state aid.

IDAHO. — No state aid.

ILLINOIS. — No state aid. The Illinois State Library Association has appointed a committee to arouse interest in a state library commission, and to have a bill drafted and presented to the state Legislature when it shall convene in January, 1897.

The committee propose asking every librarian in the state to write his senator and representative, asking that they use their influence for a commission.

INDIANA. — No state aid. The state Board of Education is a library board to provide for the administration of the State Library.

The State Library Association hopes to have the Legislature pass a bill at its session the coming winter, providing for a state library commission, a non-partisan state librarian, and travelling libraries.

IOWA. — No state library commission. Any library may, by complying with the law, become an "associate library" with the State Library. An associate library may, by paying transportation, borrow books from the State Library. Where there is no associate library, books may be lent from the State Library upon petition of 25 resident taxpayers. \$4000 has been appropriated to buy and equip travelling libraries.

It is the duty of the State Librarian to give, if asked, information regarding library organization and management.

KANSAS. — No state aid. Cities and towns may levy tax to support public libraries.

KENTUCKY. — No state aid. The alumni of the Louisville High School have drafted a bill, which is pending in the state Legislature. It provides for the appointment of five commissioners who shall serve without pay. They will report to the governor, not later than Janu-

ary 15, 1897, the results of their investigations in all departments of library work in other states. In their report they will recommend such legislation as will best promote the educational interests of the people of the state through the public libraries.

LOUISIANA. — No state aid.

MAINE. — No library commission. Every town maintaining a public library obtains from the state treasurer 10 per cent. of the amount it spends for books to buy more books. Lists of books so bought are reported. Towns of less than 1500 inhabitants, if the voters have raised \$100 for books and provided for their care, may receive from the state librarian books costing not more than half the cost of books bought by the town, and not more than \$100 in any case.

The governor and council may be asked for advice in selecting books, and instruction in cataloging and library administration may be obtained from the State Library.

MARYLAND. — No state aid.

MASSACHUSETTS. — A Library Commission of five members, appointed by the governor, one member appointed each year. Advice in regard to library administration and maintenance may be asked of the Commission. A town having no public library may receive \$100 worth of books selected by the Library Commission, provided it accepts the provisions of the library law. The town must make an appropriation for a library, the amount of which depends upon the town's assessed valuation. Suitable provision must be made for the care and distribution of books. In addition to state aid, the commonwealth allows towns to make such appropriations as they please for the establishment and maintenance of public libraries. The State Library Commission has recently completed the fifth year of actual work. In this time the number of towns without public libraries has been decreased from 103 to 21. For further information address Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly, Mass.

Of the work of the Massachusetts Library Commission, Mr. Henry S. Nourse, in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, January, 1896, says: "The Commission has spent little time philosophizing about those minor details of library management necessary and suited to large towns and extensive collections of books. If, in some country village, an enthusiastic woman volunteered to give her services as librarian and of-

fered the use of her sitting-room as a reception-room for the gift of the State, or if the local store-keeper crowded his calicoes on fewer shelves to make room for the new library, we did not feel called upon to pour cold water upon such altruistic ardor by urging the necessity of a complex system of classification or the printing of an elaborate catalog. Advice we are always ready to give and have given in great variety, although usually in small packages adapted to a special locality or suited to the personal equation of the inquirer. But our advice was always in the direction of simplicity and rigid economy; that every available dollar might go to buy new books or to increase their circulation. In the choice of books it has been the custom to assign each town, upon its application for aid, to some member of the board, who at once put himself in touch with the officials and leading minds of the town, ascertaining the peculiar needs and tastes of the people, the history and industries of the place, before making his selection of books."

MICHIGAN. — No state library commission. In 1895 the Michigan Legislature appropriated \$2500 to buy travelling libraries. It is too soon now for definite results, but the success of the scheme may be predicted from the fact that when the libraries were ready to go out there was scarcely half enough to meet the demand. The Michigan travelling libraries are of 50 volumes each and are sent out from the State Library. Further information cannot be had, it seems, until the state librarian publishes her biennial report.

MINNESOTA. — No state aid.

MISSISSIPPI. — No state aid.

MISSOURI. — No state aid.

MONTANA. — No state aid. Legislature failed to pass a bill creating a library commission at the last session of the Legislature.

NEBRASKA. — No state aid.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. — The State Library Commission consists of four persons appointed by the governor and the state librarian. The Commission may be asked for information regarding any matters pertaining to the administration and maintenance of a library. The Commission is authorized to expend \$100 for books upon application of any town having no free public library. Any town accepting the provisions of the law for the care and distribution of the books to be given, shall annually appro-

appropriate a small sum for the support of a library. The Library Commission shall, at least twice a year, issue a library bulletin which shall contain recommendations as to the best methods to be employed in library work and other general library information. At least three copies of this bulletin are to be sent to each free library in the state. The selectmen of each town *must* annually make an assessment for the maintenance of a public library. In towns where no public libraries exist the money so raised shall be held until the town votes to establish a library. On request of any public library any book in the State Library, except law-books, will be sent for not longer than one week, carriage being paid both ways by the borrower. The public library may lend the book as if it were its own. Public libraries are entitled to receive state publications. For further information write Josiah H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester, N. H.

NEW JERSEY. — A bill authorizing the governor to appoint a library commission of five persons has passed the Legislature. The Commission under this bill can recommend the appropriation of a sum equal to the sum raised by any town if less than \$100. No appropriation can be made, however, without a special act of the Legislature.

NEW YORK. — No library commission. The regents of the State University annually appropriate \$25,000 for the benefit of free public libraries. Libraries receiving aid must be under state supervision. They must be free to the public for either circulation or reference. A college library must be open every day while classes are in session, and in vacation must be open for an hour on three days of each week. Other libraries must be open at least one hour on three days of each week, and oftener in the larger places, according to population. A grant is made to each library equal to the amount raised from local sources, but not to exceed \$200. The whole amount of this grant must be spent for books approved by the regents. In nine months, ending June 30, 1896, 95 libraries in the state received \$13,746.

The use of a travelling library can be had by any library under the regents' control, or by any community on application of 25 taxpayers, or by the officers of a registered extension centre, or by a study club, or reading circle, by giving a satisfactory guarantee that

the books will be returned within six months and paying a fee of \$3 for 50 volumes or \$5 for 100 volumes. Annotated catalogs may be had, on application, free. 190 travelling libraries of 100 volumes each were sent out in nine months, ending June 30, 1896. A library not owned by the public, but maintained for its welfare and free use, if registered as maintaining a proper standard, may obtain a subsidy from local taxation of not more than 10 cents a volume of yearly circulation as approved and certified by the regents. Any city, town, or school district may levy a tax for the maintenance of a public library. For further information address State Library, Albany, N. Y.

NORTH CAROLINA. — No state aid.

NORTH DAKOTA. — No state aid.

OHIO. — The governor appoints three commissioners to serve six years without pay. They are allowed \$1000 for travelling expenses, etc. They appoint the state librarian, and have charge of the sale and distribution of the state's public documents. The Commission is authorized to extend the use of the State Library and furnish advice and help to all public libraries in the state. The State Library Commission has recently adopted new rules for the government of the State Library. Books are sent to any part of the state, provided the borrower is able to furnish security for their safe return and pays the expressage. Borrowers must be over 21 years of age. Another rule will enable persons living at a distance to secure books through the local library. The plan adopted is similar to that in operation in New Hampshire. For further information address Prof. Galbreath, state librarian and secretary, Columbus, Ohio.

OREGON. — No state aid.

PENNSYLVANIA. — No state aid.

RHODE ISLAND. — No library commission. The state Board of Education is authorized to appropriate (under certain conditions specified by itself) certain annual sums to each free public library established and maintained in the state, to be expended in the purchase of books. This sum is in no case to exceed \$500. Each town receiving a state appropriation shall annually appropriate for the support of its library an amount at least equal to the amount received from the state. Each city or town is authorized to appropriate money for the foundation and support of a free public library.

"The need in Rhode Island is not for the multiplication of the number of free public libraries, but rather for the effective equipping of those already founded."

SOUTH CAROLINA. — No state aid.

SOUTH DAKOTA. — No state aid.

TENNESSEE. — No state aid.

TEXAS. — No state aid.

UTAH. — No state aid. Cities may levy a tax for the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries.

VERMONT. — The governor appoints a board of five Library Commissioners and designates the chairman thereof. This board shall expend, upon application of any town having no free public library, a sum not exceeding \$100 for books. These books to be used for the purpose of establishing a free public library. The Commissioners select and purchase all books so provided; but no two lists are alike, and where possible they consult the wishes of the towns themselves as to the selection of books. Every town receiving this aid shall appropriate annually a certain sum, the amount depending upon its assessed valuation, for library purposes. The Board of Library Commissioners shall constitute an advisory board, which may be called upon for advice on all matters pertaining to the administration or maintenance of the library. The Commission also issues a circular of instructions as to the management, classification, etc., of a small library.

VIRGINIA. — No state aid.

WASHINGTON. — No state aid.

WISCONSIN. — The governor appoints two persons who, with the president of the University of Wisconsin, the state superintendent, and the corresponding secretary of the State Historical Society, constitute a State Library Commission. The Commission gives advice to all free libraries in the state, and to all communities which propose to establish them, as to library establishment and administration. The Commission may also send its members to aid in organizing new libraries or improving old ones. No member of the Commission receives any compensation. Travelling expenses in attending meetings or visiting libraries are paid, and \$500 allowed for incidental expenses. Through the generosity of State Senator J. H. Stout, the chairman of the Commission is enabled to devote his entire time to the library interests of the state. There is a movement on foot toward proper legislation, during the coming winter, for the establishment of travelling libraries. State Senator J. H. Stout purchased 26 libraries of 30 volumes each for circulation in Dunn county. J. D. Witter has started similar libraries in Wood county. The town treasurer is required to withhold annually from the school fund 10 cents for each person of school age, for the purchase of books for a school library. Cities and towns may establish libraries by majority vote. For further information address L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.

WYOMING. — No state aid. Counties may establish libraries if they wish.

THE STORY OF MACKINAC.

BY REUBEN GOLD THWAITES, LIBRARIAN, WISCONSIN STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

FOR two and a quarter centuries Mackinac has played no inconsiderable part on the stage of American history. Early recognized as a vantage-point, commanding the commerce of the two uppermost lakes of the great chain—Michigan and Superior—red men and white men have struggled for its mastery, tribe against tribe, nation against nation. The *fleur-de-lis*, the union jack, and the stars and stripes, each in their turn have here been symbols of conqueror and conquered; councils have been held here, and treaties signed, which set-

tled the political ownership of fertile regions as wide as all Europe; and when at last armed hostilities ceased through the final surrender to the Republic, when the tomahawk was buried and the war-post painted white, a new warfare opened at Mackinac—the commercial war of the great fur-trade companies, whose rival banners contested the sway of lands stretching from Athabasca to the Platte, from the Columbia to the Sault Ste. Marie. It is a far cry from the invasion of Ojibway Michillimackinac by the long-haired *coureurs de bois* of New France

to the invasion of Mackinac Island by modern armies of summer tourists from New England. Much has happened in the interim — necessarily happened — in order that there might peacefully be held here to-day the annual outing of American librarians. I have been delegated to tell the story of how it all came about, but in the half-hour allotted to me it will be impracticable to take more than a bird's-eye view. Most of you know it all, no doubt — librarians are always supposed to "know it all"; I can do little more than refresh your memory.

In the first place, let us understand that the term Mackinac, as used in our earliest history, is the title of the entire district hereabout, as well as that of a definite settlement. There have been, in chronological succession, at least three distinct localities specifically styled Mackinac: (1) Between 1670 and 1706 the Mackinac of history was on the north side of the strait, upon Point St. Ignace, and wholly under the French régime. (2) From 1712 to 1781 Mackinac was on the south side of the strait — until 1763, just west of the present Mackinaw City, and possibly between 1764 and 1781 at some point farther west along the coast of Lake Michigan; this south-side Mackinac was at first French and then English, and the site near Mackinaw City has come to be known in history as "Old Mackinaw." Finally (3), the Mackinac settlement was in 1781 located upon this island near the centre of the strait, and while at first under English domination at last became American. A remembrance of these facts will help to dispel the fog which has often obscured our historical view of Mackinac — a fog which designing guide-book writers delight to maintain, for they wish to beguile the summer tourist into believing that Mackinac Island has a clear title to fame, stretching back unto good Father Marquette.

You will recollect that that indefatigable explorer of high seas and pathless forests, Samuel de Champlain, planted the first permanent French colony in Canada, on the rock of Quebec, in 1608 — only a twelve month later than the establishment of Jamestown in far-off Virginia, and full twelve years before the coming to Plymouth of the Pilgrim Fathers. It was seven years before Champlain saw Lake Huron, his farthest point west in the limitless domain which the king of France had set him to govern. Twenty-one years had passed — years of

heroic struggling to push back the walls of savagery which ever hemmed him in — when one day there came to Quebec, in the fleet of Indian canoes from this far Northwest, which annually picked its way over 1500 miles of rugged waterways beset with a multitude of terrors, a naked Algonkin, besmeared with grease and colored clays, who laid at the feet of the great white chief a lump of copper mined on the shores of Lake Superior. A shadowy region this, as far removed from the ordinary haunts of the adventurous woodsmen of New France as were the headwaters of the Nile to the African explorers of a generation ago, and quite as dangerous of access.

It was five years later (1634) before Champlain could see his way to sending a proper emissary into the Northwest. Finally one was found in the person of young Jean Nicolet, whom Champlain had trained in the forest for tasks like this. Conveyed by Indian oarsmen engaged by relays in the several tribes through which he passed, Nicolet pushed up the St. Lawrence, portaged around the rapids at La Chine, ascended the trough of the turbulent Ottawa with its hundred waterfalls, portaged over to Lake Nipissing, descended French Creek to Georgian Bay, and threading the gloomy archipelago of the Manitoulins, sat at last in a Chippewa council at Sault Ste. Marie. Doubtless he here heard of Lake Superior, not many miles away, but it does not appear that he saw its waters; intent on finding a path which led to the China Sea, supposed not to be far beyond this point, he turned south again, and pushing on through these straits of Mackinac found and traversed Lake Michigan. He traded and made treaties with the astonished tribesmen of Wisconsin and Illinois, who in him saw their first white man, and brought the Northwest within the sphere of French influence.

Seven years later the Jesuit missionaries, Jogues and Raymbault, following in the path of the exploring trader Nicolet, said mass before 2000 breech-clouted savages at Sault Ste. Marie. Affairs moved slowly upon these far-away borders of New France, in the 17th century. Jogues and Raymbault had long been ashes before the Northwest again appeared on the pages of history; nearly a generation had passed before (1658-62) the daring forest traders and explorers, Radisson and Groseilliers,

came upon the scene, discovered the Upper Mississippi, discovered Lake Superior, and first made known to the English the fur-trading capabilities of the Hudson Bay region. The Hudson's Bay Company was organized in London, with these renegade Frenchmen as its pilots, in 1670; the following year at Sault Ste. Marie, St. Luson formally took possession of the great Northwest for the French king. I suppose that St. Luson, when he flew the banner of France at the gateway of Lake Superior, knew nothing of his English neighbors, the Hudson's Bay Company; unconsciously he made an important play for France on the American chess-board; but a century later England won the game.

You will remember, those of you who have read Parkman's "Jesuits," that the Hurons, whose habitat had long been upon the eastern shores of Georgian Bay, the mouth of which we passed on our way hither only the other day, retreated northward and westward before the advance of the all-conquering Iroquois. At first taking refuge with starving Algonkins on the Manitoulin Islands, and on the mainland hereabout, they were soon driven forth by their merciless foe, and made their stand in the swamps and tangled woods of far-away Wisconsin. Many of them centred upon Chequamegon Bay, the island-locked estuary near the southwest corner of Lake Superior, the ancient home of the Ojibways. Here Radisson and Groseilliers visited and traded with them. The Jesuit Ménard, who had accompanied these adventurers—the first missionary to follow in the wake of Jogues and Raymbault—had stopped at Keweenaw Bay to minister to the Ottawas, and later lost his life while trying to reach a village of Hurons crouching, fear-stricken, in the forest fastnesses around the headwaters of the Black River. Then came, three years later (1665), Father Alloüez, to reopen at Chequamegon Bay the Jesuit mission on our greatest inland sea. Alloüez being ordered, after four years of arduous and I fear unprofitable labor at Chequamegon, to found a mission at Green Bay, was succeeded (1669) by the youthful Marquette. But Marquette was not long at Chequamegon before his half-naked parishioners provoked to quarrel their powerful western neighbors, the Sioux, the result being (1670) that the Chequamegon bands, and Marquette with them, were driven like leaves before an autumn blast, eastward along the southern

shore of the great lake; the Ottawas taking up their homes in the Manitoulin Islands, the Hurons and the Ojibways accompanying Marquette to a little fur-trading station on the north shore of the Straits of Mackinac, where he established the mission of St. Ignace.

Here, in "a rude and unshapely chapel, its sides of logs and its roof of bark," Marquette ministered to the miserable savages about him, and to the handful of nomadic fur-trade employees who in spring and autumn gathered at this isolated frontier post of New France on their way to and from the great wilderness beyond. Louis Joliet, the *coureur de bois*, was sent forth by the authorities at Quebec (1673) to explore the Mississippi River, about which so much had been heard, and by that route to reach, if may be, the great Western Ocean—for the road to India, either through the continent or by way of the Northwest Passage, was still being sought in those days. He stopped at Point St. Ignace and served orders on Marquette to accompany him. The conversion of the Indians went hand in hand, in New France, with the extension of commerce; no trading-post was complete without its missionary, no exploring expedition without its ghostly counsellor. And so Marquette, a true soldier of the cross, receiving marching orders, promptly closed his mission here and went forth to help discover unknown lands and carry to their peoples the word of Christ. With Joliet he entered the Upper Mississippi at Prairie du Chien, and proceeded far enough down the great river to establish the fact that it emptied into the Gulf of Mexico and not the Pacific Ocean. It is probable that Radisson and Groseilliers were there 13 years before them; but Radisson's journal, written in England long after, was not published until our own time, and it is not at all likely that Joliet and Marquette, or any one else of importance in New France, ever heard of this prior claim. The merit of carefully-planned, premeditated discovery certainly rests with Joliet and his companion. It so happened—you of course remember the story of the swamping of Joliet's home-returning canoe in the wild rapids of La Chine—that the detailed journals and maps of the chief were lost; whereas the simple story which Marquette wrote at the Green Bay mission, and transmitted by Indian courier to his father superior

at Quebec, reached its destination and was published to the world for the glory of the church. Thus it is that the gentle, unassuming Marquette, who was the supernumerary of the expedition, became unwittingly its only historian; fate willed that his name should be more commonly associated with the great discovery than that of his secular superior. Four years later the weary bones of this missionary-explorer, who had died on his way thither from the savage camps of the Illinois, were laid to rest "in a little vault in the middle of the chapel" at St. Ignace. Early in 1878, when antiquarians could but ingeniously guess at the site of this early mission in the wilderness, the bones of Father Marquette were discovered in the rude grave wherein they had rested for two centuries, and to-day are visible relics for inspiration to deeds of holiness.

Throughout the 17th century the outpost of Mackinac at Point St. Ignace—Michillimackinac, in those easy-going days when there was more time in which to pronounce the name—remained the most important French military and trading station on the upper lakes, for it guarded the gateway between Huron, Michigan, and Superior; and every notable expedition to the Northwest waters had perforce to stop here. We must not think of this Mackinac of the 17th century, strategically important though it was, as a settlement in any modern sense. The policy of the rulers of New France was to maintain the interior of the continent as a fur-bearing wilderness. Unlike Anglo-Saxons, they had no desire to plant settlements simply as settlements. They had not the colonizing spirit of Englishmen. To carry the fur trade to the uttermost limits, to bring the savages to at least a nominal recognition of the cross, were their chief aims; to this end, palisaded trading-posts, which they rather grandiloquently called forts, were established throughout the country, the officers of which were rare diplomatists, and bullied and cajoled the red men as occasion demanded. Around each of these little forts, and Mackinac was one of them, were small groups of *habitants*, *voyageurs*, and *coureurs de bois*, who could hardly be called colonists, for few of them expected to lay their bones in the wilderness, but eventually to return to their own people on the Lower St. Lawrence, when enriched or their

working days were over. It was rather an army of occupation than a body of settlers.

The little log fort at Mackinac, designed only to withstand a fusilade of savage arrows and musket-balls, was the principal feature of the place, and the commandant the chief personage. After him, the long-robed Jesuit, and then the swarm of folk dependent on the spasmodic fur trade. A lot of shiftless, easy-going, jolly dogs were the latter—the work-a-day French Canadians of the wilderness posts. First in this category, the *bourgeois*, or masters of the forest trade; then the *voyageurs*, or boatmen, who were as well men-of-all-work, propelling the canoes when afloat, carrying the boats over portages, transporting packs of goods and furs through the forest inlands, caring for the camps, and acting as guards for the persons and property of their employers; the *coureurs de bois*, or wood-rangers, were men devoted to a life in the woods, for the fun and excitement in it, sometimes conducting a far-reaching fur-trade on their own account—the widest travellers and most daring spirits in all the great Northwest; the *habitants*, or permanent villagers, were most of them farmers in a small way. Down by the beach were their little log-cabins, with their well-sweeps and orchards, back of which stretched the narrow, ribbon-like fields, such as one may see to-day at Quebec and Montreal. The French *habitant* was a social animal. He loved the village wine-shop, where, undisturbed by his sharp-eyed, sharp-visaged, prim and gossipy, white-aproned spouse, he could enjoy his pipe, his bowl, and his "fiddlers three." For they were famous fiddlers, these French Canadians. The fiddle was indispensable on social occasions. No wilderness so far away that the little French fiddle had not been there. The Indian recognized it as a part of the furniture of every fur-trader's camp. At night, as the wanderers lounged around the blazing heap of logs, the sepulchral arches of the forest resounded with the piercing strains of tortured catgut, accompanying the gayly-turbaned *voyageurs*, as in metallic tones they chanted favorite melodies of the river, the chase, love, and the wassail. In the village, no christening or wedding was complete without the fiddler; and at the almost nightly social gatherings, in each others' puncheon-floored cabins, the fiddler, enthroned cross-legged on a plank table, was the king of the feast. The waterway was their highway. From

earliest youth they understood the handling of a canoe. Just as in the Southwest, the cowboy mounts his horse to cross the street, and refuses work that cannot be done on the back of a broncho, the French Canadian went in his boat to visit his next-door neighbor.

Thus matters progressed, in their even way, until the year of grace 1701, when the little group upon Point St. Ignace received word one day that a new post, called Detroit, had been established away down in the unknown country at the narrow mouth of Lake Huron, which was henceforth, under one Cadillac, to be the centre of commerce in these western parts. Heretofore, owing to the Iroquois stoutly holding the lower lakes against the French, progress to the far Northwest had been altogether by way of the raging Ottawa. But now, after 75 long years of journeying by that toilsome route, it had from various reasons become possible to come up here through Lakes Ontario and Erie. This new post, Detroit, was to command a still wider range than that of Mackinac; the garrison was soon withdrawn thither; the fur-traders, both white and Indian, for the most part, soon followed—it was easy for a population like this to pull up stakes and hie away at beat of drum. Nearly everybody went to the new Mecca, save the Jesuit missionaries, who were not wanted by this new man Cadillac, a hater of the “black robes.” For five years the good fathers—there were three of them then—maintained their little chapel and school here on Point St. Ignace; but they ministered to an ever-decreasing, disorderly flock, and at last, burning their crude buildings, with a few white followers retired discomfited to Quebec.

For six years there does not appear to have been any French establishment hereabout. But in 1712 Governor-General Vaudreuil sent De Louvigny, a noted frontier captain, to restore the abandoned post on the upper waters. This he did, but upon the south shore of the strait, not far west of the present Mackinaw City; and over there, on the mainland, at what came in time to be known as “Old Mackinaw” *

* Notice the change in spelling. The historic name is Mackinac, a cut-short of Michillimackinac, and such is to-day the legal designation of Fort Mackinac, Strait of Mackinac, and Mackinac Island; but the pronunciation is Mackinaw, and the spelling has been made phonetic in the cases of Old Mackinaw and Mackinaw City to distinguish them from the island, and many writers prefer to use the phonetic form whenever mentioning any of the

—although it was, as we have seen, not the oldest Mackinac—occurred such historic events as are spread upon the records to the credit of this name between 1712 and 1763. It was on the ramparts of Old Mackinaw, that in token of the fall of New France, the *fleur-de-lis* was at last hauled down on the 28th of September, 1761, and the union jack proudly lifted to the breeze. Here, upon the 4th of June, 1763, occurred that cruel massacre of the English garrison, which Parkman has so vividly described to us in his “Conspiracy of Pontiac.”

A year or more later the English rebuilt their fort, but whether or not upon the site of the massacre is a moot question. There appears to be good reason for the belief that it was among the sand-dunes farther west along the coast, for in the official correspondence of the next 15 years there is much complaint upon the part of commandants that their “rickety picket is commanded by sand hills”—a condition which does not exist at the old site near Mackinaw City.

To this rickety picket there came one October day, in the year 1779, Patrick Sinclair, lieutenant-governor of Michillimackinac and its dependencies, charged with the rebuilding and enlarging of His Majesty's post in these parts. The Revolutionary War was in progress. George Rogers Clark had captured Kaskaskia and Vincennes; his emissaries were treating with Indian chiefs away off in Wisconsin; there were rumors of Clark's intended foray on Detroit; and some suspicions that the “Bostonnais,” as the French Canadians called these leather-shirted Virginians, had designs of putting a war vessel upon Lake Michigan. Sinclair at once saw that the old site was untenable and the fort beyond repair.

In advance of orders he made a bold step. Seven miles away to the northeast of Old Mackinaw lay a comely island in the midst of the strait—“La Grosse Isle,” the Canadians called it, although smaller than its neighbor, Bois Blanc; a sort of shrine, the earliest Indians deemed it, where at times they gathered at their medicine feasts, and to which, as to a sanctuary, they fled in periods of extreme

several Mackinacs. A cultured native of Mackinac Island has told me that he has heard but one person pronounce it Mackinack, and he was Samuel Abbott, of the old American Fur Company, who was regarded in his day as an eccentric.

danger. It is thought that Marquette once taught the natives there, upon his first arrival. But if so, it was not for long; Frenchmen were more considerate of the superstitions of the dusky tribesmen than were the intolerant English. This untenanted island Sinclair appropriated to the king's use, although he formally bought it from the Indians some 18 months later for £5000, New York currency. A month after his arrival the lieutenant-governor began to erect a durable fort on the island, and thither, at last receiving permission from his superiors, he finally removed in the spring of 1781, with him going the now revived Catholic mission and the entire fur-trade colony from the south shore.

The new fort still bore the name of Fort Mackinac, and La Grosse Isle of the French was rechristened Mackinac Island. I have spent so much time in telling of the first two Mackinacs—should we not say the first *three*, if we decide to locate the second English post farther west than the ill-fated stockade of Pontiac's time?—that but few minutes are remaining of my allotment to rehearse the story of the present Mackinac. After all, there is perhaps little left to say.

By the treaty of Paris of 1783, Mackinac came within the boundary of the United States; but of course you remember that the English still held the whip-hand in these parts, and upon sundry pretexts continued to hold this and other lake posts until the Jay treaty set matters right. In October, 1796, American troops first took possession of the post, and this gateway to the upper lakes was at last ours. The English, however, were still hopeful that they would some day win this part of our country back again, and their garrison retired to Isle St. Josephs, only some 40 miles to the northeast, where in 1795 they had built a fort.

The French and half-breeds did not at first relish Yankee interference in their beloved Northwest. They had gotten along very nicely with the English, who fostered the fur trade and employed the French with liberality. Then, too, among the Creoles the reputation of these Americans was not of the best. They were known to be a busy, bustling, driving people, quite out of tune with the devil-may-care methods of the French, and were, moreover, an agricultural race that was fast narrowing the limits of the hunting grounds. The French-

men felt that their interests in this respect were identical with those of the savages, hence we find in the correspondence of the time a very bitter tone adopted towards the new-comers, who were regarded as intruders and covetous disturbers of existing commercial and social relations.

When war broke out between England and us in 1812, naturally the Creoles of the Northwest were against us, and freely entered the service of their old and well-tried friends the English. Fort Mackinac was then garrisoned by "57 effective men, including officers." There had been no news received here of the declaration of war, although the American lieutenant in charge, Porter Hanks, was expecting it. July 17, 1812, a British force of 1000 whites and Indians from Fort St. Josephs secretly effected a landing at the cove on the northwest shore of the island—known today as "British Landing"—took possession of the heights overlooking the fort, and then coolly informed the commandant that hostilities had been declared between the two nations, and a surrender would be in order. The Americans were clearly at the mercy of the enemy, and promptly capitulated.

The old fort had never from the first been in good condition. The English, once more in possession, built a new and stronger fort upon the higher land to the rear, which they had occupied, and named it Fort George, in honor of their sovereign. This stronghold was stormed on the 4th of August, 1814, by United States troops under Col. George Croghan, who also disembarked at British Landing. The English position, however, was too strong for the assailants, who lost heavily under the galling fire of the French and Indian allies, and Croghan was obliged to retire. Among his dead was Major Holmes, a soldier of considerable reputation.

The treaty of Ghent resulted in the fortification being restored to the United States, the transfer being actually made on the 18th of July, 1815. Col. McDouall, the British commander at Mackinac, was loath to leave. His despatches to headquarters plainly indicate that he thought his government weak in surrendering to the Americans, for whom he had a decided contempt, this Malta of the Northwest. When at last obliged to go, he went no farther than necessary—indeed not quite as far, for

he built a new fort upon Drummond Island, at the mouth of River St. Mary, territory soon thereafter found to belong to the United States. It was not until 13 years later (1828) that the English forces were finally and reluctantly withdrawn from Drummond Island, and English agents upon our northern frontier ceased craftily to stir our uneasy Indian wards to bickerings and strife.

When the United States resumed possession of Mackinac Island the name of the fort built by the English on the highest ground was changed from Fort George to Fort Holmes, in honor of the victim of the assault of the year before; but later this position was abandoned, and old Fort Mackinac, built by Sinclair and capitulated by Hanks, was rehabilitated, and remains to this time the military stronghold of the district.

The name of Mackinac will always be intimately associated with the story of the fur trade. We have seen that the first settlement upon the shores of these straits had its inception in the primitive commerce of the woods; and chiefly as a protection to this trade the several forts were maintained under changing flags unto our own day. In 1783 the Northwest Fur Company opened headquarters here; later, the Mackinac Company and the Southwest Fur Company were formidable competitors; in 1815, with the re-establishment of the American arms, came the American Fur Company, of which John Jacob Astor was the controlling spirit.

We cannot fully understand the course of history in these parts unless we remember that despite the treaty of Ghent (1783), Jay's treaty (1794), Wayne's Indian treaty at Greenville (1795), and the occupation of Fort Mackinac by United States troops between 1796 and 1812, the fur trade upon the upper lakes and beyond was not really under American control until after the war of 1812-15; indeed, the territory itself was not within the sphere of American influence until that time, beyond the visible limits of the armed camps at Mackinac and Green Bay. After the Jay treaty, British traders, with French and half-breed clerks and *voyageurs*, were still permitted free intercourse with the savages of our Northwest, and held substantial domination over them. The Mackinac, Northwest, and Southwest companies were composed of British subjects — Scotchmen mainly

— with headquarters at Montreal, and distributing points at Detroit, Mackinac, Sault Ste. Marie, and Grand Portage. Their clerks and *voyageurs* were wide travellers, and carried the forest trade throughout the far west, from Great Slave Lake on the north to the valleys of the Platte and the Arkansas on the south, and to the parks and basins of the Rocky Mountains. Goods were sent up the lakes from Montreal, either by relays of sailing vessels, with portages of men and merchandise at the Falls of Niagara and the Sault Ste. Marie, or by picturesque fleets of bateaux and canoes up the Ottawa River and down French Creek into Georgian Bay, from there scattering to the companies' various *entrepôts* of the south, west, and north.

The Creole boatmen were a reckless set. They took life easily, but bore ill the mildest restraints of the trading settlements; their home was on the lakes and rivers and in the Indian camps, where they joyously partook of the most humble fare, and on occasion were not averse to suffering extraordinary hardships in the service of their *bourgeois*. Their pay was light, but their thoughts were lighter, and the vaulted forest rang with the gay laughter of these heedless adventurers; while the pent-up valleys of our bluff-girted streams echoed the refrains of their rudely melodious boating songs, which served the double purpose of whiling the idle hours away and measuring progress along the glistening waterways.

You have all read Irving's "Astoria," and have enjoyed his charming description of fur-trading life at the Grand Portage of Lake Superior, over which boats and cargoes were carried from the eastward-flowing Pigeon to the tortuous waters which glide through a hundred sylvan lakes and over a hundred dashing rapids into the wide-reaching system of Lake Winnipeg and the Assiniboine. You remember the heroic trans-continental expedition of Wilson and Hunt, which started from Mackinac one bright morning in August, 1809, and wended its toilsome way along many a river and through mountain-passes, beset by a thousand perils, to plant far-distant Astoria.

With the coming of peace in 1815, English fur traders were forbidden the country, and American interests, represented by Astor's great company, were at last dominant in this great field of commerce. New and improved

methods were introduced, and the American Fur Company soon had a firm hold upon the western country; nevertheless, the great corporation never succeeded in ridding itself of the necessity of employing the Creole and mixed-blood *voyageurs*, *engagés*, and interpreters, and was obliged to shape its policy so as to accommodate this great army of easy-going subordinates.

The fur trade of Mackinac was in its heyday about the year 1820. Gradually, with the inrush of settlement and the consequent cutting of the forests, the commerce of the forest waned, until about 1840 it was practically at an end, and the halcyon days of Mackinac were over. For

years it was prominent as the site of a Protestant mission to the modernized Indians of Michigan and Wisconsin; finally, even this special interest was removed to new seats of influence, nearer the vanishing tribes, and Mackinac became resigned to the hum-drum of modern life—a sort of Malta—now but spasmodically garrisoned; a fishing station for the Chicago trade; a port of call for vessels passing her door; a resort for summer tourists such as we; a scene which the historical novelist may dress to his fancy; a shrine at which the historical pilgrim may worship, thankful, indeed, that in what many think the Sahara of American history are left a few romantic oases like unto this.

THE PROCEEDINGS.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, TUESDAY—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1—4, AND MACKINAW,
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1896.

FIRST SESSION.

(HOLLENDEN HOTEL, TUESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 1, 8.30 P.M.)

AN informal social meeting was held in the parlors and corridors of the hotel, for the purpose of enabling members to meet old friends and make new ones, to get generally in touch with each other, and to examine the exhibits of book-stacks, travelling libraries, library appliances, and souvenirs of previous meetings, which had been arranged in some of the smaller rooms. It was a pleasant, profitable, and thoroughly enjoyable gathering.

SECOND SESSION.

(ROOMS OF THE CLEVELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 2.)

The Association was called to order by President Dana at 9.15 a.m.

The Secretary made a number of announcements and also read the following communication from the Rowfant Club:

"ROWFANT CLUB, CLEVELAND, Sept. 1, 1896.

"Mr. John Cotton Dana, President American Library Association.

"MY DEAR SIR: Will you kindly announce that the Rowfant Club cordially invites the

members of the Association to an informal reception at our Club-house, 766 Prospect street, Wednesday evening, from 7 p.m.

"The purposes and objects of your Association, the individuals and their work, are so thoroughly in accord with the aims which prompted the organization of the Rowfant Club that we esteem it a pleasure and privilege to offer an opportunity for a more intimate acquaintance, and we trust we may have many of your number with us next Wednesday evening. As one of the objects in instituting our Club-house was to found a Mecca where pilgrim bookmen and book-lovers might find a congenial oasis in life, we cordially tender to the members of the Association the freedom of our Club during your convention.

"On behalf of the Board of Fellows and members of the Rowfant Club,

"Yours very truly,

"WM. H. GAYLEN, *President R. C.*"

A meeting of the Council was called to be held at the close of this session.

The president announced the following Committee on Resolutions: F. M. Crunden, St. Louis Public (Free) Library; John Vance Cheney, Newberry Library, Chicago; Bernard C. Steiner

Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore; and then read

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

(See p. 1.)

This was followed by a paper by Mr. Joseph N. Larned, entitled

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT IN THE CLOSING YEARS OF THE CENTURY.

(See p. 5.)

After a recess of five minutes the meeting was again called to order at 10.55 a.m., Vice-President Henry J. Carr in the chair.

H: M. UTLEY invited all the members to visit the Detroit Library.

R. R. BOWKER (Chairman Committee on Public Documents).—I wish simply to make an announcement. As the two papers following bear on the several matters at Washington which are covered by resolutions of the standing Committee on Public Documents, it has been arranged that the report of that committee shall be considered after these two papers. It is therefore suggested that instead of having a discussion of each paper immediately after it is read, the treatment of these papers shall be confined to questions from their authors if such are to be made, and that any discussion of the subjects presented in these two papers should follow the presentation of the resolutions from the Committee on Public Documents bearing on those several questions.

Mr. B. R. GREEN read his paper on

THE NEW CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY BUILDING.

(See p. 13.)

Mr. GREEN exhibited large plans illustrating his paper, and also circulated among those present a number of smaller blue prints of the same for examination.

Mr. F. A. CRANDALL followed with a paper on PUBLIC DOCUMENTS AND THE PROPOSED NEW PUBLIC DOCUMENT BILL.

(See p. 20.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

To the American Library Association :

The Committee on Public Documents has not been called together during the year past, but has acted chiefly through its chairman, who, in several visits to Washington, has been in close consultation with Superintendent Crandall and others interested in improvements in the pub-

lishing and distributing of public documents. The work of the committee has been confined for the most part to obtaining from librarians throughout the country personal support for the proposed amendatory act.

It is a pleasure to report that under the new Public Documents act, approved January 12, 1895, Superintendent F. A. Crandall has done able and efficient service in the interest of public libraries as well as of the government. Mr. Crandall prepared a Supplementary bill "to reduce the cost, increase the value, and simplify the methods of publication of public documents"—a bill well suited, in the main, to accomplish the purposes indicated. The first draft of the proposed bill, with a statement of the facts regarding "the public and the public documents," was issued by Mr. Crandall in March last, and copies were sent to many librarians. A summary of the bill was given in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for March, and a copy of the pamphlet is appended to this report. Among its important features are the adoption of a standard size, octavo, for all public documents, unless necessity to the contrary should be shown to the Public Printer; provisions that the binding, lettering, etc., of public documents shall be of the first grade; the adoption of standard colors for the several departments; uniform methods of lettering; and provisions for supplying public depositories more promptly with sets in half morocco of the distinctive colors, in place of the objectionable and costly "full sheep."

It was originally proposed that these sets should be furnished in cloth, which would probably satisfy library requirements, and the provision for the more costly binding was made largely at the instance of the Binders' Union, which feared that the amount of binding in the Government Printing Office would be seriously reduced by the proposed change. Comment is unnecessary!

A bill on somewhat similar lines had previously been prepared by Dr. John G. Ames, and had received favorable consideration and a favorable report from the House Committee on Printing. An understanding was reached by which Dr. Ames, who had originally suggested many of the improvements made or yet to be made in the handling of public documents, assented to the withdrawal of this bill in favor of that prepared by Superintendent Crandall. The latter bill, owing to the earnest efforts of Hon.

George D. Perkins, of Iowa, was carried through the House of Representatives without objection. It did not, however, obtain right of way in the Senate, and has therefore gone over to the next session. Objection was raised by heads of departments because the wise general provision for a standard size, octavo, was too sweeping in its provision, and an amendment will doubtless be accepted at the coming session, excepting specifically from this provision certain statistical and scientific reports. There is good hope for the passage of this act the coming winter.

The committee submits resolutions urging the passage of this Supplementary bill and acknowledging the efforts of Mr. Perkins in behalf of the measure.

The work of collecting and cataloging public documents under the new law has made excellent progress. The official monthly catalog, started with the number for January, 1895, issued necessarily some months later than its date, has been pushed forward so that it is now issued as closely upon its date as the arrangements of the Public Printer permit. Other cataloging work is in progress, which will much facilitate the use of public documents in libraries and by the public generally.

The list of Government Publications, made a part of the five-yearly volume of the American Catalogue, has been completed for the period July 1, 1890, to June 30, 1895, and a copy is appended to this report.

Although it is not strictly within the province of this committee, it may be worth while to call attention to two important matters in connection with library relations at Washington.

A provision for separating the Copyright Office from the work of the Librarian of Congress came very near passage, but failed in conference at the last moment. This is regarded as a desirable change, and a resolution is presented for the consideration of the Association, without recommendation as to its adoption.

The new building for the Library of Congress is so nearly completed that provision has to be made for the organization of the library in the new building. The Joint Committee having charge of the library was authorized to sit during the recess and present a plan for the reorganization of the National Library, and it is understood that hearings will be given, if desired, on this important matter. It has been

suggested that a committee of members of the American Library Association, familiar with library organization on a large scale, should be appointed to represent the Association at such hearing, and a resolution to that effect is presented for consideration, without recommendation as to its adoption.

In respect to state publications, there is little progress to be reported. A very serious evil, however, has been showing itself in connection with state and municipal libraries, as noted in the previous report of this committee—an indirect result of the extension of civil service reform, which has caused politicians to look to positions not included under civil service regulations for opportunities to make changes in private rather than the public interests. It may be well for the Association to put itself on record in this matter, and a resolution is presented for consideration, without recommendation as to its adoption.

The appendix of state publications, for the five-yearly volume of the American Catalogue, for the period July 1, 1890, to June 30, 1895, has been prepared, and a copy will be filed with this report.

R. R. BOWKER, *Chairman.*

RESOLUTIONS.

R. R. BOWKER.—This committee has had leave to print. I am afraid not many of you have taken leave to read the report on p. 21-24 of the Preliminary Papers. As there is so little time I shall take it for granted that you have read, although it is 90% fiction. I will pass at once to the resolutions. The first is as follows:

"Resolved, That the American Library Association approves the general principles of the Supplementary bill to provide for improved methods in publishing and distributing public documents, and urges its speedy adoption by Congress."

The second reads as follows:

"Resolved, That the American Library Association extends its appreciation and thanks to Hon. George D. Perkins, of Iowa, for his vigorous and successful efforts to obtain the passage by the House of Representatives of the Supplementary bill to provide for improved methods in publishing and distributing public documents."

I move the adoption of those resolutions.
Voted.

I present also, not officially for the commit-

tee, because it is somewhat beyond its scope, but it is presented in this way to facilitate action, the following resolution, which has also been argued in advance by Mr. Green:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of the American Library Association, consisting of seven members, including the retiring and incoming presidents of the A. L. A., be appointed by the executive board, with power to add to their number and to ask the co-operation of others than members of the committee, to represent this Association in relation to the reorganization of the National Library in preparation for the occupancy of the new building, and to take such steps as may promote the future development of the National Library on the most modern and most comprehensive plans."

CYRUS ADLER.—I should hope that the resolution would not be speedily adopted, and I suggest that it be laid aside for the present.

Mr. BOWKER accepted the suggestion with the understanding that it shall come up with the business of standing committees in the afternoon.

Mr. BOWKER introduced the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the American Library Association approves the organization of the Copyright Office as a separate bureau of the Library of Congress, and urges the adoption by Congress of a measure to that effect.

"*Resolved*, That the American Library Association regrets to note that during the past year and recent years changes have in several instances been made in state and municipal libraries from the motive of private political interest rather than for the public good. It submits that in no field is continuity in service more necessary to efficient administration than in state and municipal libraries, and that in no place can more harm be done by the demoralization of good service by changes for political reasons. It urges, therefore, that such changes shall be condemned promptly and actively by state and local public opinion, and appeals to the press to join with it in promoting a healthful public sentiment in this respect, which shall uphold the effort of librarians in official positions to give the state or the city their best service and thus increase the usefulness of state and municipal libraries to the public."

Mr. BOWKER moved the adoption of the resolutions as read. *Voted.*

The Secretary gave notice of the steps to be taken to put in nomination candidates for the various offices, to be balloted for on the Australian ballot at the regular election on Friday; and announced that, as these rooms were not large enough, future meetings would be held in the Army and Navy Hall.

Recess was taken at 12.30.

THIRD SESSION.

(ARMY AND NAVY HALL, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 2.)

Called to order at 2.45 p.m., by President Dana.

R. R. BOWKER called up the resolution in regard to the Congressional Library, deferred from the morning session.

R. R. BOWKER.—The resolution before the house is the following:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of the American Library Association, consisting of seven members, including the retiring and incoming presidents of the A. L. A., be appointed by the executive board, with power to add to their number and to ask the co-operation of others than members of the committee, to represent this Association in relation to the reorganization of the National Library in preparation for the occupancy of the new building, and to take such steps as may promote the future development of the National Library on the most modern and most comprehensive plans."

The report of the Public Documents Committee (*see* p. 80) states that a committee of Congress, of which Senator Hansbrough is chairman, has been appointed to take into consideration the reorganization of the Library of Congress with reference to its occupancy of the new building. We know that there have been certain difficulties in connection with the Library of Congress, and that perhaps it is not in all respects up to the time, and we have reason to suppose that this congressional committee will give hearings and will be glad to hear from this national Association. Perhaps if the committee is not of its own motion desirous of hearing the views of librarians, it is not less worth while that this national Association should put itself on record as being ready to offer suggestions to the congressional committee. The suggestion has been made by one gentleman from Washington that there might be some sensitive-

ness on the part of the congressional committee on our volunteering to come forward before we are asked. Possibly that is what Dr. Adler has in mind as his criticism; but it seems to me not only eminently proper, but eminently desirable and positively right that this Association, knowing that the country faces this great problem of the National Library, should put itself on record even of proffering advice, if it is not asked for. I have little doubt that it will be cordially asked for through the chairman of that committee, but I do not think that the passage of the resolution should be affected by an unwillingness at the moment of the congressional committee to hear what we have to say to them.

That is in brief the purpose of this resolution. I should add that the matter came scarcely within the scope of the Public Documents Committee, but you will note that this resolution is somewhat tentative in form.

CYRUS ADLER. — It is with some hesitation that I have taken any part in the proceedings of this meeting, because, although I have been for some years a member of the Association, this is my first attendance at a conference, and I felt that a becoming modesty might keep me in my seat all the time. I also know that large bodies of this kind are governed by committees, and that all reports from committees are usually well considered and are worthy of the most favorable consideration.

When I heard this resolution read this morning with reference on the part of the chairman that it did not come within the scope of the committee which reported it, and with a term or a series of terms in it which I had never heard used before in connection with the Library of Congress at its present stage of existence, I simply asked that consideration of the matter be delayed, because I saw there were only ten minutes left for discussion. I was not aware that anybody had taken up the consideration of the reorganization of the Library of Congress. The Library of Congress has been organized for a great many years. If there are difficulties in connection with it those difficulties were unavoidable and were difficulties occasioned by acts of Congress. Mr. Green has sufficiently explained the delays in providing a new building, and I think you can all see for yourselves that in the end these delays were beneficial. Therefore I say that the question of the reorganization of the Library

of Congress is not now up. The committee of Congress has not proposed to consider plans for its reorganization, but simply plans for its transfer and for the use of this new building.

R. R. BOWKER. — I will read the resolution under which this committee was appointed. Is it your understanding that this resolution was not passed by Congress?

CYRUS ADLER. — I say that there has been no committee appointed. There is simply the Joint Committee of the House and Senate which is empowered to sit during recess and call for persons and papers to get such information as will enable it to prepare for the occupancy of this building.

R. R. BOWKER. — The resolution reads as follows:

"Resolved, That the Joint Committee on the Library of the House of Representatives and of the Senate be authorized to sit in Washington during the recess of Congress for the purpose of inquiring into the condition of the Library of Congress, and to report on the same at the next session of Congress with such recommendations as may be deemed desirable; also to report a plan for the organization, custody, and management of the new library building and the Library of Congress.

"The said Joint Committee is also authorized to employ a stenographer whenever necessary during the course of the inquiry. The necessary expenses of the sittings of the said Joint Committee, including the pay of the stenographer, are to be paid out of the contingent fund of the said House of Representatives and Senate, on vouchers approved by the chairman of said Joint Committee; Provided, That the expenses incurred under this concurrent resolution be reported to the second session of this Congress."

I think that is a resolution looking to a hearing, and it really brings the whole question before the committee referred to.

CYRUS ADLER. — That resolution looks toward the suggestion of plans for the use of this new building, and nowhere does it hint that the Library of Congress requires reorganization. It is hardly possible to discuss such a fine question in a moment, but I am sure that if Mr. Bowker looks at that question he will see the point that I make. The Joint Library Committee, of which Senator Hansbrough is chairman, has commenced to call for papers and will,

no doubt, commence to call for persons. It is to secure information as to the best methods of moving great libraries. It will no doubt call for more when the proper time comes. It now has already in its possession plans for the moving of large libraries. The committee will no doubt call the American librarians to assist it in this matter. It may call on the president of the Library Association, and I am sure he would feel himself fully empowered to go in person, or to ask such of his colleagues as he would feel inclined to ask to go with him; but it seems to me that the appointment of a committee, more specially the passage of this resolution as it now stands, is gratuitous, and that it is a reflection on the Library of Congress, which has existed for a good many years and done the best it could, and that it is a reflection which the Library of Congress does not deserve from this Association. Any one who is acquainted with procedures in Washington knows that the best way to have your advice accepted is not to proffer it. If you want to get a committee of Congress to do something that you wish to have done, or think ought to be done, you must get that committee of Congress to ask you to advise them, and not offer your advice. The American Institute of Architects, a society which was moved by the highest of motives for the improvement of government architecture, went to a committee of Congress to have a bill drafted for the improvement of the methods whereby the plans were drawn. I do not think that any one of the gentlemen who appeared had the slightest desire to get a job out of the government, but every member of the House before whom they appeared thought they did, and would not have anything to do with them. It seems to me that you would be doing a very much better thing if you would wait, or at least entrust it absolutely to your president, and see whether Congress shall ask your advice before you proffer it.

R. R. BOWKER.—It seems to me that Dr. Adler, whom we are certainly glad to see and hear on this floor, and who, any one who has visited Washington knows, is doing admirable work, has done a real service in presenting arguments against this resolution, although I think that this Association should take action. I think that some of his suggestions and criticisms are well taken, and I shall ask leave to modify this resolution in this way:

"That the Executive Board be authorized to appoint a committee of the American Library Association, etc., to represent this Association in relation to the organization of the Library of Congress in its occupancy of the new building, and to take such steps as may promote the future development of the National Library on a more modern and most comprehensive plan."

That may perhaps not altogether meet the views of Dr. Adler, but it seems to me that in that way it removes the essential criticisms which he has made, and I shall ask leave to offer the resolution, as amended, to the house.

CYRUS ADLER.—I always like to meet a man more than half way, but still I am not quite satisfied with the compromise. I believe that this is a matter that would be safely left to executive action, and I believe that the passage of the resolution will be productive of no good, and may be productive of harm. Mr. Bowker cannot say to-day that the passage of this resolution will be productive of any good. I am able to say that it may be productive of some harm. I am perfectly willing to leave the whole question, without any resolution whatsoever, to the president and council of this Association. I submit that in this amended resolution there is a criticism against the Library of Congress which is unfair. It states that the Library of Congress is to be reorganized on a more modern plan, and if Mr. Bowker or any other member of this Association had to care for 750,000 books in a space which would not hold 150,000, I do not believe he could have done any better. I do not think that in the later years of Mr. Spofford's life this Association or any other association should pass a resolution containing a single word that seemed to reflect on him.

A. S. ROOT.—It seems to me that it is not our place to give advice before it is asked.

F. B. GAY.—I move that this question be laid on the table. *Voted.*

Mr. GEORGE ILES read a paper on

THE APPRAISAL OF LITERATURE.

(See p. 26.)

THERESA WEST.—I should like to ask Mr. Iles whether in these books there will be any copyright on the notes.

GEORGE ILES.—We talked a little about that last night in the Publishing Section. For my own part I should not care to have any copy-

right; if any one wishes to copy any note I will be very glad to have him do it, but I cannot speak for the Publishing Section.

W. I. FLETCHER. — A word about this matter of copyright. The question has been raised as to whether the Publishing Section has copyrighted or intends to copyright its material. I am not prepared to say just what is the fact about the copyrighting, but I am sure that no copyright has been taken, at least such as to interfere at all with the extracting of notes. So far as such copyrights exist, I am sure they are simply to cover the execution of the whole work and not to interfere with any use of extracts for the public benefit. It seems to me with so large a company together it would be a pity if special attention were not called to the book which has been published under the name of "Books for girls and women." One thing that needs to be said about that book is that its title is somewhat unfortunate, and it is probable that a great many here might profit by the use of the book in their library work who are deterred from it by its title. The plan on which that book was made at first contemplated the selection of books particularly for women and girls' clubs. The plan was so carried out that it became ultimately a work which might as well have been called "A general select and annotated list of good books," and the suggestion that it is for girls and women ought to be eliminated to show its general character, and I suppose it will come out later.

In that book, which is published and for sale by the Library Bureau at about the cost of manufacture, we have an admirable example of just what Mr. Iles has been proposing. It is a somewhat limited example, but, as I said, it is in no sense properly confined, as might be understood by the title, to books suitable only for girls and women. I wish that there might be a very general knowledge of the book and that it might come into general use, which I am sure would be conferring a great public benefit.

Pres. DANA. — I would ask if the title of the book could not be changed in a future edition, and if that would not lead to its being more widely used?

GEORGE ILES. — Mr. Beer has some hope of ordering from the Library Bureau a paper edition of 2000 copies for New Orleans, with the title changed to "A list of 2100 books annotated." I think the original title is a mistake.

The idea was that in addressing a particular audience of girls and women we would be enabled to sell a good many copies to their clubs, but that expectation has failed. The clubs have proved to be too poor to buy it, or it does not meet their wishes in some way. It may not be good enough.

Pres. DANA. — I remember quite distinctly that one of the few impressions I was able to get at Lakewood was of the controversy between Mr. Iles and Mr. Dewey over the possibility of the very thing that is now to some extent an accomplished fact. If I remember right, it was said that these criticisms, these evaluation notes, would not serve their purpose, because they would set people's prejudice the other way. Those of you who have examined this book will remember that in certain parts of it at least the commentator does not hesitate to express his mind. If I remember Mr. Iles aright, he told me that in one or more cases he urged the annotators to make their notes personal, and I would like to ask if he has received any comments from any of the readers of the book to indicate that it has harmed its usefulness.

GEORGE ILES. — I have not. When I was in Chicago during the World's Fair I saw Mr. Harris, and he said that he and Pres. Hall, of Clark University, had been asked over and over again to draw up a bibliography of education, and they could not agree as to which were the important books. I would overcome that difficulty in the way I would overcome the protection and free trade or the gold and silver difficulties. If I had a book like White's book on banking I would get Mr. Bryan's view and David A. Wells's view and then put them one under the other. I remember five or six years ago, when Mr. Bowker and I were getting up "The reader's guide in economic, political, and social science" for the Society of Political Education, Mr. McKinley agreed to write an exposition and defence of the principle of protection and Mr. Wells a defence of free trade, and I think our scheme was to print Wells on one page and McKinley on the opposite page, so that they would both be before you; but the scheme was too good and I had a polite note from Mr. McKinley saying that he was very busy and could not go on with his part. It is best to have the views of two men who are considered authority in their particular schools of thought.

Pres. DANA. — Here at least is one case in which it has been possible for the American Library Association to free its mind and no harm has been done.

Question — If we are to have these notes on every book, how large will the cards be?

GEORGE ILES. — I would have the note as concise as possible, but yet would say everything necessary to be said. Details will have to be worked out when we take the matter up practically. It is possible, as we know when we cable across the sea, to say a great deal in twenty-five words. I would put on the condenser.

Sec. ELMENDORF then read the

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Meeting of the Executive Board of the A. L. A. held in Cleveland, September 1, 1896. Present: President Dana, Vice-Presidents West and Carr, Ex-President Utley, Treasurer Cole, Assistant Treasurer Anderson, Secretary Elmendorf, Recorder Nelson.

Mr. Carr presented the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the Library Primer, if published by the Association, include not more than as much matter, including all appendices and index, as may be contained in 24 pages of the LIBRARY JOURNAL." Carried unanimously.

"*Resolved*, That if the Primer be printed, it shall be revised by a Committee on Revision appointed by the incoming Executive Board, be submitted to the council for approval, and after the council's approval, be published by the Publishing Section, and be called a 'Library Primer.'" Carried unanimously.

Mr. Elmendorf presented the following:

"*Resolved*, That the list price of the Primer be fixed at 25 cents; the Secretary of the Association to be furnished with 1000 copies for free distribution, and that the edition consist of 3000 copies." Carried unanimously.

Mr. Utley presented the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Executive Board sanction the expenditures for cuts for the Primer already made by the Secretary, about \$16." Carried.

Mr. Elmendorf presented the following:

"*Resolved*, (1) That the A. L. A. accept the invitation of the L. A. U. K. to take part in the International Library Conference to be held in London in July, 1897, and that the Secretary be instructed to cable this acceptance to the L. A. U. K., now in session. Such members of the

A. L. A. as can go shall be the authorized and instructed delegates.

"(2) That all arrangements for the presence of the representatives of the A. L. A. at the International Conference, and all arrangements for an itinerary for the entire trip be in the hands of a committee of five to be appointed by the Executive Board during the present conference, this committee to have full power to act in this matter for the Association.

"(3) That the time and place of meeting of the A. L. A. for 1897, which shall have its final adjournment prior to the departure of the delegates to the International Library Conference, be fixed by the incoming Executive Board, in consultation with the A. L. A. Committee on International Library Conference." Carried unanimously.

The records of the meeting of the Executive Board at Colorado Springs after the Denver Conference, and at Cleveland October 10, 1895, will be found in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Sec. ELMENDORF. — The committee for compiling the A. L. A. Primer was authorized to print 1000 copies. We determined without farther action by the executive board or by the full Association in conference, that we would not assume the responsibility, although it was delegated to us, of publishing the Primer. The Primer, as you know, has been published in *Public Libraries*. The notes are not what the committee appointed would want. The text is not what we would have it in final form. It forms a basis for revision for such a book as our Association should have to give out in answer to the constant inquiries of How shall we start and how shall we run a new library in our town?

The appendices have not all been printed, and those printed have not been printed in full and need revision. That is the state of the Primer business and the recommendation of the executive board which I will ask you to consider later.

The next action of the board was the sanctioning of the expense of the cuts, which was the only expense incurred. I believe the entire bill amounts to about \$23.

The following report was submitted upon the European trip, the proposed trip to Europe of the Association next year. If it is the pleasure of the Association to act upon the first part, the recommendation of the executive board in

regard to the Primer, I would like to have that settled and out of the way, and I would move the adoption of those resolutions as presented by the executive board.

The motion was seconded by Mr. John Thomson.

W. I. FLETCHER.—Representing the publishing section, I would like to call attention to the fact that there seems to be an introduction here of a question affecting the business of the section, in that the price is fixed of this Primer. At the same time it is said that 1000 copies shall be furnished to be distributed without cost and that the publishing section shall have 2000 copies. It is not a question to be considered here whether that can be done or not. Should it not be put in such a form that it will be left for the publishing section to find out how that can be done? I should think it might be amended to read, "At 25 cents, or as near that as can be made by the publishing section."

The amendment was accepted by Sec. Elmendorf.

G. M. JONES.—It seems to me that this matter of the number of copies that we shall print, the price we shall fix, etc., is not a matter that can be settled in a meeting of the Association. I therefore move as an amendment that this matter be referred to the incoming executive committee.

S. S. GREEN.—I am always very much troubled when I hear of the Association undertaking to publish anything. I would rather have these resolutions lie on the table till we have considered the question whether the publishing section is to be a section of the Association, and then it seems to me we could best dispose of the matter by referring it to that section.

The first amendment was withdrawn.

G. M. JONES.—I move that the first two sections be passed. They come clearly within the scope of the Association as a whole. The other resolution can be settled very much better by the publishing section. *Voted.*

W. C. LANE.—I wish to make a motion in regard to the other resolution. I should like to have the vote put in the way which I will suggest in order that it shall be a matter of precedent, and that is that the Association refer this resolution to the publishing section as recommendations, leaving the publishing section free, if it finds it impossible to adopt the recommendations, to do the best they can.

C. A. NELSON.—This matter received very careful consideration in the executive board meeting yesterday, and without assuming the responsibility it is left to the incoming executive board to consider whether the Primer shall be published. I think that is what is covered by the resolution.

Sec. ELMENDORF.—The resolution remaining relates to the details of publishing.

JOHN THOMSON.—I would like to see the matter disposed of at once. The question of price has been carefully considered, and I would like to see the question carried through without further delay, and therefore I hope that the proposition which I seconded will be carried.

F. M. CRUNDEN.—I second Mr. Lane's motion. There are likely to come up points when the actual work of publication is in hand that have not been foreseen. At any rate, I think it would be perfectly safe to refer the whole matter, with these resolutions as instructions or recommendations, to that section of the Association whose special business it is to do the work.

The motion as presented by Mr. Lane was passed.

Sec. ELMENDORF.—The next matter to be considered by the executive board was the European trip of the American Library Association. This was brought before the board and before the Association by the first notice that was sent to you all of the meeting in Cleveland, proposing that the Association join in an international conference, and the Association voted to go in the months of July and August, 1897. Upon the basis of this I notified Mr. MacAlister, the Secretary of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, that we would be glad to meet them in conference either in July or August, and that possibly our conference meeting be held either at the first or the last of our trip. In reply to that I received Mr. MacAlister's letter after consultation with the L. A. U. K. Council, which I published in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, inviting the American Library Association to send delegates to an international conference to be held in London in July, 1897, intimating that after the conference some of the English librarians would be glad to go with the American librarians to enjoy the hospitalities of the different towns in England, which would doubtless be extended to them.

Various plans for the trip were submitted, and in view of the information laid before the ex-

ecutive board the following resolutions were unanimously carried by the board and recommended to the Association:

Resolved, (1) That the A. L. A. accept the invitation of the L. A. U. K. to take part in the International Library Conference to be held in London in July, 1897, and that the Secretary be instructed to cable this acceptance to the L. A. U. K., now in session. Such members of the A. L. A. as can go shall be the authorized and instructed delegates.

(2) That all arrangements for the presence of the representatives of the A. L. A. at the International Conference and all arrangements for an itinerary for the entire trip be in the hands of a committee of five, to be appointed by the executive board during the present conference, this committee to have full power to act in this matter for the Association.

(3) That the time and place of meeting of the A. L. A. for 1897, which shall have its final adjournment prior to the departure of the delegates to the International Library Conference, be fixed by the incoming executive board in consultation with the A. L. A. committee on International Library Conference."

R. R. BOWKER. — At the suggestion of several members I have been asked to present a resolution bearing on this question, covering, however, only one part of the resolutions proposed by the executive board. I will read the proposed resolution and then say just a word on it.

"Resolved, That the Association approve and authorize the appointment of a special committee of five to consider and arrange the details of the European trip of 1897, and that those present at this conference who have any expectation, or who have reasonable expectation, of taking the trip, be requested to meet in committee meeting at the close of this afternoon's session to consider the general plans of the journey and to report back any suggestions to this conference as well as to submit them to the special committee."

It has been suggested that it might be very important indeed to have the conference rather toward the end of the English trip than at the beginning, because we have had experiences here as everywhere that after an association scatters it is very difficult to get them together again for any general trip. The opposing views on that question it is proposed to present

at this meeting of those intending to take the trip, and if this vote should be carried it would involve by tacit consent the consideration of the other votes proposed by the executive board till some time to-morrow. I would move this as a substitute. *Seconded*.

H. E. DAVIDSON. — They expect us to come in July and have made their plans accordingly. I am sure it will be embarrassing to the L. A. U. K. and to us to have us ask them to change the date which they have practically fixed. The L. A. U. K. is in session at the present time and I dare say they are watching for a cable which shall tell them of the acceptance by this Association of their invitation, and for my part I think it is desirable that the Association act upon this question to-day so that whatever answer we have to make to them can be sent by cable to-night.

F. P. HILL. — I would ask Mr. Davidson if the sessions of the L. A. U. K. close to-day, or whether to-morrow will be time enough to send a cablegram.

H. E. DAVIDSON. — I understand that their sessions close to-morrow, but we must bear in mind that while it is two or three o'clock here it is five hours later there, so that we must send our answer to-night for it to meet their official action to-morrow. That is my reason for calling your attention to the invitation being for July.

R. R. BOWKER. — I think I know enough of the English brethren to make sure that they would be very glad to receive any suggestions from those of the A. L. A. who contemplate making this trip that would bring more or that would make the trip a greater success, and I think Mr. Soule was to suggest that a cable inquiry should be sent to-night to know whether the L. A. U. K. could with convenience rearrange the plan if that should be the desire of the members on this side. I am quite sure that our English friends would be willing to act sympathetically and kindly in that matter. It is now nine o'clock in London and in the other Boston, and we could not now get any information to the brethren there till to-morrow, so that a cable sent to-night after this meeting asking the question would receive a response to-morrow very promptly and the thing could be settled with full satisfaction to-morrow. It is proposed rather to have this discussion in the committee of the whole of those going rather than in this body so as to cover the

points without troubling the members who are not going on this trip.

Sec. ELMENDORF. — The ladies and gentlemen are familiar with the history of the attempts in late years to get the Association to attend an international conference. At one time we decided that we would not accept the invitation of the L. A. U. K. for one year when we were invited, but we would accept it for the next, and we were told, with very great propriety in my judgment, that they did not want us the other year, but wanted us when they invited us. It seems to me very improper when we receive an invitation from a conference which will be in session just about the time that we are, to cable and ask them whether we can have the privilege of accepting their invitation for July or for some time which we shall set in the future. The reason of their changing the invitation from September to July was because I wrote upon your authority by the return votes of the referendum saying that September would not suit us, and everything seemed perfectly satisfactory, provided it could be either made at the first or the last of our trip, which would cover the months, by the vote of this Association, of July and August. This is the only matter in this report that I am strenuous about. I think the details should be left to the committee and to the people who go. My idea is that the only question before this Association is: Will you or will you not accept the invitation of the L. A. U. K., or shall we send them word saying, "We won't accept your invitation for when it is given, but we will if you will renew it for some other time"?

F. P. HILL. — I understand that the members of the Association will have to make a final decision in this matter, no matter what recommendation is made by the committee of the whole.

I move as an amendment, in order to get a test vote, that so much of the resolution as relates to the acceptance of the invitation be adopted.

C. C. SOULE. — I understood that these gentlemen who have just spoken in opposition to the postponement, had been consulted and had assented to it. It was urged upon the executive committee last winter that after the opinion of the Association had been taken in regard to the European trip and by a decisive vote the Association had decided to go, a special committee

should be appointed, the whole question should be discussed at that time, and the whole thing should be threshed out so that we should have all information before us, and then after this information was received we should have an intelligent vote and submit to the will of the majority. The executive committee have chosen, without instructions or consultation with more than four or five members, to correspond with the L. A. U. K. They probably have compromised us, as Mr. Elmendorf says. I would like the Association to understand that the theory of a large number of the members was that we first should decide what we wanted to do, being the visiting party, and after having decided that we should then consult our foreign brethren and see what they could do. That is what we wanted to have done. This action of the executive committee has probably precluded that. We cannot discuss the question very thoroughly. A number of us have thought that there is still time to have the matter explained and find out what the theories might be, and then those who go might still have an opportunity of expressing their opinions in regard to certain vital points in the trip. We simply do not want snap judgment. We think the people who are going ought to be consulted first. The time when we arrive in London is one essential point of difference.

TESSA L. KELSO. — When we delegate authority to certain people it seems to me that when they make their report we should decide to reject or adopt the report in the spirit in which we instructed them to investigate. It seems to me hardly fair to take the ground that the executive board did not have full power.

G. M. JONES. — It seems to me that this is idle discussion. As I understand it, the difference of opinion is in regard to the details of the trip after we reach the other side. The question before us to-day is whether we shall accept the invitation of the L. A. U. K., to be present in London on certain days, and our members have already expressed their opinion that July and August are the best days to take for that trip. Therefore I think that the motion of Mr. Hill is the motion for us to adopt at the present time. Shall we accept the invitation of the L. A. U. K., or shall we not? Then the matter about the method of appointing a committee we can decide later. That does not concern our English friends.

R. R. BOWKER. — I would suggest that Mr. Hill's amendment be passed with the date left blank, and then make the direct question as to whether we shall specify that date.

F. P. HILL. — I think I realize somewhat the position of Mr. Soule and Mr. Bowker with reference to this question. In 1890 we were invited by John Vance Cheney and others to go to San Francisco. Action was taken in a large meeting like this and everybody decided to go to San Francisco. When it came to settle on those who were going, it was found that only about 40 would take the trip, and I have said to Mr. Soule and to Mr. Dana, and to others, that it seems to me the whole question ought to be settled by those who are going to Europe and not by those who have no idea of going. If there is anything in this resolution which I have offered which would in any way hamper the Association, I withdraw it, but I cannot see why the mere acceptance of the invitation should affect us in any harmful way, and I would ask Mr. Soule or Mr. Bowker to give such explanation to the Association if there is any such to give.

H. E. DAVIDSON. — The only question involved by this date is whether a conference in London shall be held in July or at the end of our trip. If we accept the invitation, the conference will be in July. If we ask them to change and carry on negotiation for a change, it is with a view to getting it put later. This does not affect the itinerary, it is simply a question whether it is desirable to have the conference precede our trip or to take what we now call a post-conference before the convention.

H. J. CARR. — If we, as an Association, vote to accept the invitation to go abroad, ought we not to carry out our agreement? I would like to know before I vote whether we have a reasonable showing or proper number to go. Is there not some way by which we can find out as to the probable number that will go?

Mr. Hill's amendment was adopted.

Sec. ELMENDORF. — The second resolution is as follows:

"That all arrangements for the presence of the representatives of the A. L. A. at the International Conference, and all arrangements for an itinerary for the entire trip be in the hands of a committee of five to be appointed by the executive board during the present confer-

ence, this committee to have full power to act in this matter for the Association."

I would like to say in explanation of this that the matter was brought up in the executive board meeting when this resolution was passed; that this committee ought to call during this session a meeting of those interested and take the views of all as a committee of arrangements, and that was as far as it went.

F. P. HILL. — I would like to hear Mr. Bowker's substitute. I think that the details should be left to those who expect to go on that European trip.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — If I understand this motion, it does not propose to have this body as a whole act on the details of the trip, but to leave it to the committee, which committee would naturally consult the persons whom it was serving.

G. M. JONES moved that the recommendation of the executive board be adopted. *Voted.*

Sec. ELMENDORF read the next resolution as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the time and place of meeting of the A. L. A. for 1897, which shall have its final adjournment prior to the departure of the delegates to the International Library Conference, be fixed by the incoming executive board, in consultation with the A. L. A. committee on International Library Conference."

F. P. HILL moved that the resolution be adopted. *Voted.*

C. A. NELSON. — I move that the recommendations of the executive board as adopted separately be adopted as a whole. *Voted.*

F. P. HILL. — Would it be proper to offer a motion at this time to the effect that all those who intend to take this trip should meet in this hall after the meeting this afternoon, or has everything been so far arranged that members are not to have anything to say about it? I should feel very sorry if the executive committee, or any committee, can spend money of the Association without direct authorization of the Association for this matter in question, as I understand the president to say the executive board could do.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — It seems to me that the money matters, like all other details, ought to be left to those who are going.

Sec. ELMENDORF. — This is not a delegation appointed here to attend an international conference. The details of that conference you have just placed in the hands of a certain com-

mittee. The first and natural duty of that committee will be to call together those who are interested, and the idea of putting this thing through at this time, in the judgment of the executive board, was that it might be done in that way. The committee, I should think, would naturally call a meeting as soon as it was appointed.

F. P. HILL. — Cannot the executive board now ask the members who intend to go to Europe to meet here after this meeting adjourns?

The President announced that immediately after the afternoon meeting there would be a meeting of those who expected to go to Europe next year.

W. I. FLETCHER. — It seems to me that a meeting of those who intend to go to Europe cannot do much without that committee.

Pres. DANA. — I am sure that if it can be done the executive board will immediately appoint a committee before the people who expect to go to England have gathered together.

W. I. FLETCHER. — I want to say in reply to

some suggestions made here that any one should fear that this trip is going to involve a large expenditure on the part of the executive committee out of the funds, that I have entire confidence in this committee which is to be appointed that they will not draw upon the treasury of the A. L. A. to pay any expenses of the trip, unless it be some proper expenses of the delegates as delegates.

C. A. NELSON. — The Association as an association has voted to accept the invitation of the L. A. U. K. The Association has also voted that all here and all who may not be here who expect to go shall be the regular and appointed delegates of this Association. The meeting proposed to be called as soon as the general Association adjourns is of those members who are going as delegates, and from those members the committee of arrangements will be appointed.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

E. H. ANDERSON, acting treasurer, read the following report, which it was voted to accept and refer to the finance committee:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

E. H. ANDERSON, *Acting Treasurer, in account with the AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

1895.

DR.

Aug. 1. To balance reported (Denver Conference, p. 48)\$1108 85

Aug. 1, 1895, to Aug. 31, 1896 :

To fees for 534 Annual Memberships, at \$2 each:

For 1894, 1.....	\$2 00
For 1895, 96.....	192 00
For 1896, 435.....	870 00
For 1897, 3.....	6 00

\$1070 00

To fees for 17 Annual Fellowships, at \$5 each:

For 1895, 1.....	\$5 00
For 1896, 16.....	80 00

\$85 00

To fees for 29 Library Memberships, at \$5 each:

For 1896, 29.....	\$145 00
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To sale of Conference Proceedings..... 5 00

To interest on deposit, Aug. 1, 1895, to Aug. 29, 1896..... 41 71

\$2455 56

1895.	CR.	
Aug. 2.	By Langford & Thompson; typewriting Treasurer's report	\$1 75
Aug. 16.	By C. A. Nelson; expenses in connection with Denver Conference.....	48 55
Aug. 16.	By H. M. Utley; expenses in connection with Denver Conference.	7 15
Aug. 16.	By Geo. E. Wire; expenses in connection with Denver Conference.....	3 70
Nov. 5.	By W. K. Fleming; stenographer's services and transcripts of Denver Conference	74 65
Nov. 26.	By Library Bureau; stationery.....	14 24
Nov. 26.	By Lon Hardman; printing and stationery.....	17 85
Dec. 5.	By G. W. Cole; 500 postal cards	5 00
Dec. 17.	By M. R. Walter; printing papers of Denver Conference.....	287 53
1896.		
Feb. 26.	By Library Bureau; Cleveland Conference circular No. 1, mailing, etc.....	38 35
June 9.	By E. H. Merriman; typewriting and stenographic work	40 00
June 9.	By H. L. Elmendorf; expenses of Secretary's office.....	29 03
June 10.	By <i>Publishers' Weekly</i> ; circulars.....	5 00
June 19.	By Stevenson & Foster Co.; stationery for Treasurer's office	27 70
June 22.	By <i>Publishers' Weekly</i> ; printing and mailing Proceedings.....	76 52
Aug. 19.	By H. L. Elmendorf; expenses of Secretary's office.....	58 35
Aug. 19.	By E. H. Merriman; typewriting and stenographic work.....	26 00
Aug. 28.	By Mrs. Maud Kennedy; stenographic and clerical work.....	7 20
Aug. 28.	By Stevenson & Foster Co.; stationery for Treasurer's office.....	12 75
Aug. 28.	By J. R. Weldin & Co.; cash-book for Treasurer's office.....	2 20
Aug. 28.	By Combe Printing Co.; circulars, programs, and Preliminary Papers for Cleveland Conference	113 50
Aug. 28.	By Weber & Co.; rubber stamp.....	40
	Aggregate payments.....	\$897 42
Sept. 1.	Balance on deposit with T. Mellon & Sons' Bank.....	1558 14
		<u>\$2455 56</u>

The present status of membership (Sept. 1, 1896) is as follows:

Honorary Members.....	2
Life Fellows	2
Life Members.....	28
Annual Fellows (paid for 1896)	16
Annual Members (paid for 1896)	435
Library Members (paid for 1896)	29
Total	512

During the period covered by this report, 121 new members have been added to the list, 20 have resigned, and 3 have died.

It seems hardly worth while to make a report of the amount of membership fees which remain unpaid. Many allow their memberships to lapse, neither resigning nor paying their fees. It is, therefore, impossible to make a satisfactory estimate of the collectable unpaid fees.

There are now on hand the following publications:

2	copies of Milwaukee Conference (1886).
32	" " Thousand Islands Conference (1887).
79	" " St. Louis Conference (1889).
18	" " White Mountains Conference (1890).
25	" " San Francisco Conference (1891).
6	" " Lakewood Conference (1892).
12	" " Chicago Conference (1893).
75	" " Lake Placid Conference (1894).
148	" " Denver Conference (1895).

It may be of interest to members to know that the cash balance on hand, and the number of members in good standing, are the largest in the history of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

E. H. ANDERSON, *Acting Treasurer.*

Sec. ELMENDORF read the following :

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF ENDOWMENT FUND.

TRUSTEES A. L. A. ENDOWMENT FUND *in account with* AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

DR.

To Subscriptions from Oct. 30, 1890, to Sept. 1, 1896, ...		\$4,540.50	
" Interest received during same period :			
From invested funds, ...	\$1,179.86		
" loan to Publishing Section, ...	169.70		
" bank balance, ...	35.72		
" Pliny T. Sexton, ...	20.00		
" loan to Charles C. Soule and Henry I. Carr, ...	3.75		
			1,409.03
" Amounts received in payment of loans :			
From mortgages matured, ...	\$1,300.00		
" Publishing Section	650.00		
" Charles C. Soule and Henry I. Carr, ...	200.00		
			2,150.00
" Amounts received for Life Memberships :			
From Henry I. Carr Balance old account, ...	\$447.47		
" new memberships, ...	350.00		
			797.47
			<u>\$8,897.00</u>

CR.

By Amounts paid out from Oct. 30, 1890, to Sept. 1, 1896:			
Loans on Bond and Mortgage, ...	\$5,700.00		
" to Publishing Section, ...	900.00		
" " Charles C. Soule and H. I. Carr, ...	200.00		
" Sundry other amounts paid out :			
For printing, ...	135.10		
" accrued interest on mortgages, ...	133.53		
" rent of vault (four years), ...	40.00		
" amount paid (not loaned) Publishing Section, ...	269.70		
			\$7,378.33
" Balance, ...			1,518.67
			<u>\$8,897.00</u>

1896.

Sept. 1. To Balance, ...		\$1,518.67	
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E. and O. E.

Trustees A. L. A. Endowment Fund,

NEW YORK, Sept. 1, 1896.

by E. C. HOVEY, *Treas.**Financial Condition.*

ASSETS.

Loans on Bond and Mortgage, ...	\$4,400.00		
" to Publishing Section (secured by note), ...	250.00		
Cash in International Trust Co. (Boston), ...	1,518.67		
			<u>\$6,168.67</u>

LIABILITIES.

None.

Interest Account.

To Total amount received, ...	\$1,409.03		
By Amounts paid out :			
Paid (not loaned) to Publishing Section, ...		\$269.70	
" for accrued interest on mortgages, ...		133.50	
" " printing, ...		135.10	
" " rent of vault, ...		40.00	
			\$578.30
To Balance, ...			830.73
			<u>\$1,409.03</u>
			<u>\$1,409.03</u>

NOTE.—When, pursuant to a vote of the Association, the then Treasurer, Mr. Henry I. Carr, paid over to the Trustees of the Endowment Fund, the sum of \$447.47 it was ordered that so much of our income as was necessary to increase this amount to \$650.00 the original sum, be withheld. From Balance, \$830.73, I have deducted the sum of \$202.53. The available Interest Balance is therefore only \$628.20.

E. H. HOVEY, *Treas.*

W. I. FLETCHER. — I move that the report be accepted and referred to the Finance Committee for auditing. *Voted.*

Sec. ELMENDORF read a communication from Hon. Pliny T. Sexton resigning his position as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Endowment Fund and presenting \$100 to the fund.

W. C. LANE. — I move that the resignation of Mr. Sexton be accepted, with regrets, and that the thanks of the Association be sent to him for his services in the past and for his generous gift in addition to the fund. *Voted.*

Miss HEWINS then read her paper on

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

(*See p. 6.*)

Pres. J. C. DANA. — I would ask Miss Hewins how this report on gifts and bequests compares with those of former years.

Miss C. M. HEWINS. — It is for two years instead of one, and it is larger, I think, than usual.

F. M. CRUNDEN moved that the report be received and filed. *Voted.*

Vice-Pres. F. M. Crunden assumed the chair.

J. N. LARNED. — I wish to say that the report of the Committee on Library Schools as printed in the Preliminary Papers requires amendment in two or three particulars on information received after the printing was done. None of them are of very great importance.

Sec. ELMENDORF. — The corrections on the Preliminary Papers noted by the authors are made on the official report which has been set aside for the purpose.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Library Schools and Classes had thought of tabulating a comparison of the courses of instruction, pursued in the several schools, for the purpose of ascertaining how far they work on common lines, with common aims, and to what extent they diverge in their purposes and plans. But differences of construction in the schedules of class-work submitted to us for the purpose seem to make any fully analytical and precise comparison, not unpracticable, perhaps, but so difficult that we will not undertake it. The most we can attempt is a rough calculation of the proportions in which the time of study and work in

each school or class is divided among the subjects of chief note. This brings to view some differences which are interesting, though the exhibit of them may have no further importance.

The conspicuous difference is one well understood as a general fact, namely, that the training for library work given at Albany is more strictly technical than in any of the other schools. Literature, for example, as a distinct subject, fills a large place in the courses at Armour, Pratt, and Drexel Institutes, while it has been wholly omitted, heretofore, from the curriculum of the New York State School. At Armour Institute about six per cent. of the total class-work scheduled in the first year, and 23 per cent. in the second year, are assigned to Literature. At Drexel Institute and at Pratt Institute, where the course, hitherto, has been one of a single year, the percentage of time devoted to Literature is about 21 per cent. and 12 per cent. respectively in the first term, and 30 per cent. and eight per cent. in the second term. At Pratt Institute it is said to be mainly a critical course. In the Albany schedules, 11 per cent. of class-work appropriated to Reading, in the junior and senior years alike, may cover more or less of discursive literary instruction; and the same is probably true of a smaller assignment of time to Reading in the Chicago course; but the intention of the New York State School is to make that part of preparation for library work antecedent to its own teaching. This policy seems warranted by circumstances which give to the Albany School a certain advantage over others. As the parent school of all, it enjoys a natural precedence and prestige that are attractive to students, and, while its classes remain as limited in number as they are, it may easily set its standard of requirements for admission at a height that will cover all the general knowledge of literature which school and college teaching can give. The younger classes, at Brooklyn, Philadelphia, and Chicago, supplementary and auxiliary, so to speak, to the original school, in their rise, could hardly plant themselves, perhaps, at the beginning, on quite so specialized a ground. But some day, no doubt, they will find it best to drop out of their curriculum more or less of the studies now embraced which are preparatory to the strictly technical training for library work, rather than forming any part of it. The

study of Literature, as pursued, is unquestionably one of these. For while it leads toward the knowledge which is fundamental in the education of the librarian—at the bottom of all efficiency in his work—yet it does not and cannot be carried far enough, in an ordinary course, to win the stamp of practical qualification which a special training school, in any department of work, ought to put upon its graduates. What we call the study of Literature is mainly a study of what the French define better for us, as *Belles-Lettres*. It leaves untouched, or nearly so, a large part of the comprehensive knowledge of books which the librarian needs. The literature of science, of philosophy, of religion, of history, of biography, of politics and social economy, in which more than half of the problems of library science and the difficulties of library service arise, is scarcely approached by it. As a part of technical training for the work of the libraries it is fragmentary, therefore, and inadequate at the best, and for all that is practicable in it, as preparatory to that work, the appropriate place would seem to be in the prescribed education required of students before their special instruction begins in the library school.

Logically, the study of Literature and the study of languages would be excluded from the curriculum of the library schools on the same grounds. That Literature is a defined subject of study in three of them, while one language, the German, is taught in only one school, that of Pratt Institute (where it is carried through the whole course and occupies nearly one-tenth of the whole time in the schedule), appears not quite consistent.

Other subjects which, in time, are more than likely to be dropped from the library schools are English Composition, Book-keeping or Accounts, and Economics. The first of these subjects (embracing, however, proof correction and the like) has received attention at Pratt Institute to the extent of about 12 per cent. of the working time of the class in its first term. Book-keeping takes three or four per cent. of class work in one term at the same school, while the discussion of Economics is pursued at Drexel Institute only, and during but one term. There is no apparent better reason for introducing these subjects than for entering in the course any other of the many branches of a general education.

To raise one more question as to the range of a proper course of instruction in library science, we may say that even Typewriting has become so common a part of the equipment for so many employments in modern life that the acquirement of it outside of a library training class might fairly be demanded. At present it has a place in the course at three schools, taking time in the schedules of Armour Institute and Pratt Institute to the amount of about eight per cent. throughout all the terms, while at Drexel Institute it consumes half that proportion of time in the first term alone.

If we turn now to the undoubted matters of special library training, we shall find the schools and classes differing little from one another in the measure of time which they devote to the subjects of fundamental importance, while each shows a certain character of its own in the emphasis which it puts upon some of the incidentals of the practical work.

Cataloging, as scheduled at Albany, fills 33 per cent. of the regular class-work time in the junior year and 21 per cent. in the senior year. At Armour Institute the schedules show but 17 per cent. in the junior year and two per cent. in the senior year; but 21 per cent. of the junior year and 17 per cent. of the senior year at Armour Institute are assigned to what is designated as "Apprentice work," in which cataloging predominates. At the Albany School there is an assignment of time (eight per cent. in the first year and 13 in the second) to General Practice Work, which is defined as being exclusive of cataloging as work required, though students may so employ it if they choose to do so. At Pratt Institute, the time given to cataloging equals about 24 per cent. of the whole class-work in the first term (of the one-year course), 22 per cent. in the second term, and 12 in the third. This we understand to be exclusive of equal hours given to practice work. In the two terms of the single year at Drexel Institute, the time assigned to Cataloging is respectively 35 and 40 per cent. of the whole.

To other common subjects and exercises, the assignment of time in the class-work of the several schools is as follows:

Classification: New York State Library School, seven per cent. in each year; Armour Institute, six per cent. in the junior year and two per cent. in the senior; Pratt Institute, seven per cent. in the first term, four in the

second; Drexel Institute, eight per cent. in the first term.

Accession Work: New York State School, three per cent. in the first year; Armour Institute, two per cent. in the first year; Drexel Institute, four per cent. in the first term; Pratt Institute, three per cent. in the first term.

Loan Systems: New York State School, three per cent., first year; Drexel Institute, three per cent., second (half-year) term; Armour Institute, two per cent., first year; Pratt Institute, two per cent., second term.

Shelf Department Work: New York State School, three per cent., first year; Armour Institute, two per cent., first year; Pratt Institute, two per cent., first term (besides practice work running through three terms); Drexel Institute, three per cent., first term.

At Armour Institute, Bibliography and Reference Work are alternating subjects, and unitedly receive about 16 per cent. of time in the junior year and nine per cent. in the senior year. At Albany there is four per cent. of time in the junior year and five in the senior assigned to Bibliography, and nine per cent. in the senior year to Reference Work. This is independent of a liberal allowance of time for Original Bibliography in connection with Thesis Work, both at Albany and Chicago. At Pratt Institute, Bibliography is the subject of three closing lectures in the last term; at Drexel Institute, it is made part of the Reference Work in each term. At Pratt Institute, the percentage of time given in the schedules to Reference Work is four in the first term (but this recognizes lectures only and not practice work), seven in the second. At Drexel Institute, the percentage is two and twelve in the two terms of the year.

The Order Department furnishes a subject of class-work at Pratt and Drexel Institutes, but elsewhere appears to be incidental.

Current Topics are dealt with more or less at each of the schools.

General Library Economy is a distinct subject at Albany and Chicago, while at Brooklyn and Philadelphia it is probably covered in a more detailed way.

Bookbinding receives attention at Albany to the extent of two per cent. of the class-work in the junior year; in the other schools it is touched upon less fully.

Printing as an art, and Proof-Reading in connection with it, are technically studied in Albany to the extent of three per cent. of time in the first year, and at Philadelphia and Brooklyn to the extent of one per cent. in the first term of each class. At Chicago, the historical side of Printing is more considered, in connection with the history of Books.

The history and description of libraries, their founding and government, the architecture and fittings of their buildings and the legislation which relates to them, are discussed in all the schools, and in no very unequal measure.

At Albany alone the schedule provides for instruction in Indexing, but that important subject receives attention likewise at Chicago, and will be introduced in the second-year course at Brooklyn.

At Drexel Institute alone, Children's Reading is among the subjects in the schedule; but it has been the topic of a course of lectures by Miss Stearns at Armour Institute during the year past, while at Albany it is the subject of a course of lectures given by Miss Hewins every other year.

At Pratt Institute, a distinguishing feature of the last term is an extended course of lectures on the greater libraries of the world. Apart from these, the closing term is mainly given to practical work in the general free library of the Institute.

In all the schools, a practical study of library work under different systems and circumstances, by the visitation and examination of various leading libraries, and the subsequent discussion of their several methods, is made more and more an important and most commendable feature of each case.

This comparative survey of the courses of study and work pursued in the several library schools brings nothing of great importance into view, but it may have some suggestiveness not wholly without worth.

The four schools named have all been visited during the year by the chairman of the committee, though not all at times which permitted their work to be seen. The Armour Institute school has been visited likewise by Miss Brown, of the committee, and the Pratt Institute school by Miss Hasse.

Of all the schools it can be reported with no hesitation, that the past year has been, on the

whole, the most satisfactory in their history, giving encouragement in all of them to larger undertakings and plans of future work. The school at Pratt Institute announces, in consequence, a second-year course, "not wholly," says the circular, "an extension of the first year's work, but rather a development of another phase, the historical and bibliographical."

The New York State Library School opened its first summer session at Albany in July last, conducting a short course of five weeks, especially for the benefit of library assistants who seek technical instruction in elementary work. In its regular course, the work of the school has been greatly systematized and improved during the year last past. The faculty has been enlarged, and the non-resident lectureships have assumed a more organized character, certain subjects being permanently assigned to given lecturers, who are expected to appear before the school with regularity once in two years. The Library School Museum and the collections of photographs, clippings, pamphlet material in bibliography, library economy, etc., have been thoroughly cataloged and much increased; while important beginnings have been made with an exhaustive Index of library economy which should some day be put into print.

The Summer School conducted by Mr. Fletcher at Amherst held its session in July and August, with undiminished success. The class numbered 36 against 30 last year.

A second session of the Wisconsin Summer School, conducted by Miss Sharp, of the Armour Institute School, under the auspices of the University of Wisconsin, but supported by the generosity of the Hon. J. H. Stout, was held at Madison for six weeks, closing August 14. There were 27 pupils in attendance, from nine western states, all but four having had more or less library experience.

In conclusion, the committee presents a compilation of statistics (see next column of this page) which summarizes the practical results of the work done in the four fully founded library schools of the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

J. N. LARNED,
ADELAIDE R. HASSE,
ELIZA G. BROWNING,
CAROLINE H. GARLAND,

Committee.

	N. Y. State School.	Pratt Institute.	Drexel Institute.	Armour Institute.
Date of opening.....	1887	1890	1892	1893
Total number of students from beginning.....	199	142	81	41
Men.....	34	4	4	0
Women.....	165	138	77	41
Number of students enrolled the past year.....	31	21	14	19
Total number of graduates.....	67	104	38	32*
Men.....	11	4	0	0
Women.....	56	100	38	32
Graduates and students employed in library work.....	146	77*	76	26
States in which graduates and students have been employed and number in each.....	Conn. 23; Del. 2; Dist. of Col. 10; Ga. 2; Ill. 43; Ind. 2; Ia. 3; Me. 4; Md. 1; Mass. 52; Mich. 10; Mo. 6; Mont. 2; Neb. 4; N. H. 3; N. J. 20; N. Y. 212; O. 2; Penn. 33; R. I. 7; Tenn. 2; Va. 6; W. Va. 1; Wis. 2; Total 456.	Arizona 1; Cal. 1; Conn. 5; Ind. 1; Mass. 3; N. J. 5; N. Y. 56; Oregon 1; Penn. 4; Total 77.	Penn. 14; N. J. 1; Mass. 1; Total 16.	Ill. 31; Ind. 1; Mich. 3; Minn. 1; Penn. 3; O. 2; N. Y. 2; Wis. 7; Ia. 2; Mo. 1; Total 53.

* 25, one year's course;
7, two years' course.

* Not including temporary employments.

SPECIAL REPORT ON ARMOUR INSTITUTE LIBRARY
TRAINING CLASS.

Armour Institute is proceeding along the same general lines indicated in last year's report, except that the course now consists of two years' instruction instead of one, and type-writing has been added to the list of studies.

The methods used here are based on those in use at Albany, except that they are modified to suit the requirements of the Armour Institute students. Greater stress is laid here upon the practical things of library life. Invariably it has been the public library which has applied to Armour for a librarian, hence the aim of this school has been to train the student in the practical needs of a public library rather than along the theoretical lines more applicable to the college or reference library.

Respectfully submitted,

E. G. BROWNING.

SPECIAL REPORT ON PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY
SCHOOL.

In June, 1896, the Pratt Institute Library School completed its sixth year of library instruction. The total number of pupils who have entered the classes since their inception in 1890 is 142; 104 were graduated. The course was augmented during the year by lectures given by librarians of the vicinity on their methods, by regular weekly visits of the class to neighboring libraries, and by a practical course in library accounts.

Stenography was omitted from the course, and the work in library economy was put under the direction of one instructor, instead of, as formerly, under the care of different members of the staff.

The Director of the Library School reports the demand for trained workers to be steadily increasing, the increased demand coming more especially from the smaller towns.

During the moving of the library into the new building, which was accomplished, exclusive of the reference-books, in two days and a half, the current work of the library was carried on by the students of the Library School. The class took charge of the reading-room, reference-desks, and circulating department, and largely because of this assistance the public was granted the use of the library without interruption during the moving.

The systematic manner with which the re-

moval of the books was conducted must have been a valuable object lesson to this class.

The popular Current Topics work was continued through the first and second terms of this course.

Just before the close of the course of 1895-6 a circular was issued announcing a second-year course for 1896-7, to deal with Library Science and Bibliography. A corps of lecturers has been obtained, and the term will open September 28.

By an arrangement with Dr. John S. Billings, Director, New York Free Public Library, the subjects of Advanced Cataloging and Bibliography will be pursued during the second-year course under a competent instructor, by means of the collections of the Lenox Library.

A directory of graduates of Pratt Institute Library School, 1890-95, was published in the *Pratt Institute Monthly*, June, 1896.

The satisfaction with the practical work of the class in the third term is constantly increasing. The students take turns in all the departments of the library, wait on the public in the reading, reference, and delivery rooms at varying hours of the day, and frequently at the hours of greatest pressure. The verdict is that this experience makes them more prompt in emergencies, keener and more tactful in contact with the public, and more conversant with the needs and wants of the public.

ADELAIDE R. HASSE.

W. C. LANE presented the report of the Executive Board of the A. L. A. Publishing Section.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE A. L.
A. PUBLISHING SECTION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1896.

A report of the Publishing Section was prepared last year, but on account of the absence of all members of the executive board from the Denver meeting it failed to be presented. The report this year must therefore cover the operations of two years. In our last report we regretted that no larger progress had been made, and we might say much the same in regard to the past two years, for librarians are all engrossed in the daily administration of their own libraries, and it is difficult to accomplish any considerable undertaking in addition. Some important work has, however, been done. Three regular meetings of the executive board have

been held, two in New York and one at Northampton; the records of the last two meetings will be found in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for July, 1896, and it is the intention to make public in the same way the record of future proceedings.

In regard to each of our publications, a brief but detailed statement follows:

The A. L. A. Index. The total expenses have been \$2600.14 and the total receipts \$2982.30, the balance \$382.16 has been paid in five semi-annual payments to the editor, Mr. W. I. Fletcher, in accordance with our agreement with him. Of the 750 copies printed, 722 have been sold, 78 of these in the last two years. A supplementary volume, to be published in 1897, is already in hand, and will include material already published in the *Annual Literary Index*, and as much as possible besides. The editor, Mr. W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College, will be glad to receive suggestions in regard to works which should be indexed. It is hoped that the new material may be combined with that of the original index so that we may have a new edition and not simply a supplement. This will be done if the advance subscriptions, when called for, warrant it.

Sargent's Reading for the Young. In the last report a sale of 3464 copies was reported. During the last twenty-two months there has continued a small but steady demand for the work, amounting to 171 copies. The net receipts for these have been \$125.45, but, 200 copies having been bound at an expense of \$46, and the sum of \$11.80 being chargeable to insurance, the net profit has been \$67.65, leaving the total expenses from the beginning still \$89.49 in excess of the total receipts. A supplement to this book also is in press, and will be published immediately. It has been compiled by Misses Mary E. and Abby L. Sargent, who have personally examined and passed upon every book included in it. They have added to it, beside the author-index, a subject-index which covers the whole work, original and supplement, and will very much increase the value of the book. The preparation of this index has caused an unavoidable delay in the issue of the work, so that it will be found that although published in the autumn of 1896, it contains none of the books published this year or in the latter part of 1895.

List of Subject Headings. This list, compiled by Mr. G. M. Jones, working with a committee

of the Library Association, was published in October, 1895, and has found an excellent sale. The cost of manufacturing 500 copies was \$405.93, the expenses of the committee for clerical labor and stationery came to \$54, making the total cost \$459.93. Three hundred and fifteen copies have been sold, net receipts \$431.62, so that the publication has already almost paid for itself, and some 175 copies remain on hand. No plates were made, as it was intended to be simply a preliminary work, and it was thought that a new edition enlarged and improved would soon be wanted. Criticisms and suggestions are invited and the Section will be in position to have a new edition printed whenever it may be thought necessary.

List of Books for Girls and Women and their Clubs. For the publication of this List the Association, and the library profession generally, are indebted to the generosity and public spirit of Mr. George Iles. Mr. Iles advanced the money for the whole expense of manufacture, \$1983.42; he has also furnished at his own expense the manuscript, the editorial work, the advertising, and the cost of press copies, the total being about \$3700. The item of cost of press copies (\$174.74) is to be deducted from the sum mentioned above, so that for the expense of printing we owe Mr. Iles \$1808.68, which is to be repaid to him as far as receipts from sales allow. At a meeting of the executive board it was *Resolved*, That the Publishing Section record its cordial appreciation and earnest thanks to its associate, Mr. George Iles, for his most generous service to the American Library Association and to all readers of books, in both editing and providing for the large expense of publication of the evaluated "List of Books for Girls and Women," recently issued through the Publishing Section, and that this minute be specifically reported at the next conference of the American Library Association.

Three thousand copies in large form of the whole list and 2000 copies of the separate parts in small form were printed. The sales during the nine months, October, 1895, to June, 1896, have been of the complete list, 251 copies, paper, and 414 in cloth, with 843 copies of the separate parts. The net receipts have been \$410.35, which has been paid to Mr. Iles. The smallness of the sales is disappointing, as great pains were taken to secure for the different sections of the work able editors, whose opin-

ions should carry authority. The name has perhaps had some effect in diminishing the sale, as it seems to limit its usefulness to girls and women. As a matter of fact, while there are some sections, such as nursing, domestic economy, livelihoods, which are of especially feminine interest, the list as a whole is equally valuable as a selected list of general scope for all classes of readers, and we would suggest that librarians might find it very useful if purchased in large quantities to be sold to their readers. Special editions with a new title-page suited for special use will be supplied at special rates. Reprints of separate sections of the List will also be made if there is a demand for them. It is hoped that, although the initial sales have been small, librarians will later find that they have here a tool which can be made widely useful.

It has been one of the intentions of the Publishing Section to issue frequently small leaflets on subjects of library interest. Only two such have been printed, one a folder describing the work and plans of the Section, and giving its constitution and a list of publications; the other an address on "Paper and Ink," by Robert T. Swan, the Commissioner of Public Records in Massachusetts, read before the Massachusetts Library Club, March 1, 1895. One thousand copies were reprinted from the LIBRARY JOURNAL at an expense of \$10.20. They have been distributed with other publications to members, but there has been practically no other call for them.

At the meeting of the Association in 1894, it was voted that the executive board prepare an annotated list of undesirable fiction. The executive board has discussed this proposition and has not seen its way clear to carry it out; they therefore voted to refer this vote back to the Association with the recommendation that if the work be undertaken at all it should be placed in the hands of a special committee.

In accordance with another vote passed at the same meeting of the Association the executive board adopted, after consultation with a committee appointed by the Association, the following scheme for the various publications of the Section:

First.—To adopt for all catalogs and indexes the standard column of 6 cm., and for the size of page the two standard sizes of 7.5 by 12.5 cm. (postal size) and 17.5 by 25 cm. (maga-

zine size), the printed page of the former being just one-fourth that of the latter.

Second.—To indicate the successive publications in each series, by letters A, B, C, etc., in the larger series, and by numbers 1, 2, 3, etc., in the smaller.

Third.—To use for catalog work, antique brevier for entry words, old-style brevier for titles, old-style nonpareil for notes, and old-style long primer for reading-matter, all work to be single leaded.

Fourth.—To use a paper rag or partly rag, reasonably opaque and sized so as to take ink easily in writing notes, etc.

Fifth.—To adopt in all publications of the Section the preferred spelling of the Century Dictionary as the standard, but to retain the spelling "Catalog" now used for many years by the A. L. A.

The work of the Section has been generously supported by the Trustees of the Endowment Fund. The \$650 borrowed in February, 1891, and June, 1892, was repaid October 15, 1895, with interest amounting to \$169.70. The Trustees have appropriated for the use of the Section \$100 in November, 1895, and \$169.70 to cover the payment of interest. They also loaned us in March, 1896, \$250.

By vote of the board a discount of 50 per cent. on the publications of the Section is made to actual students in library schools and training classes, if purchasing for their own use.

The statement of the cash receipts and payments from Jan. 1, 1895, to Aug. 31, 1896, is as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Balance Jan. 1, 1895.....	\$62 54
Membership subscriptions...\$245 00	
Endowment Fund. Appropriation.....	100 00
Endowment Fund. Appropriation covering interest on former loan.....	169 70
Endowment Fund Loan.....	250 00
Library Bureau. Sales; on account.....	150 00
Houghton, Mifflin & Co., sales of A. L. A. Index (2 years)	246 39
Seymour Library. Balance..	80
Withdrawn from Savings B'k.	1161 89
	550 00
	\$1774 43

PAYMENTS.

W. I. Fletcher (A. L. A. Index).....	\$254 39	
George Iles (Books for girls and women).....	410 35	
G. M. Jones (Subject-headings).....	54 00	
"Paper and ink".....	10 20	
Library Bureau. On account	100 00	
Endowment Fund. Loan repaid.....	650 00	
Endowment Fund. Interest on same.....	169 70	
Miscellaneous expenses.....	43 72	
Balance.....		\$1692 36 82 07 \$1774 43

A further statement in regard to assets and liabilities will show other facts in regard to the financial condition of the Section:

ASSETS.

Cash.....	\$82 07	
Cambridge Savings Bank...	11 09	
Library Bureau, due.....	294 37	
Members, due.....	6 76	
		\$394 29

LIABILITIES.

Endowment Fund.....	\$250 00	
Due to members in money or publications.....	162 88	
		\$412 88

It will be noticed that on the one hand no account is made of the value of the publications in stock, which, however, is not large if we exclude the "Books for Girls and Women," and that on the other hand nothing is said of the money payable to Mr. Iles from future sales of the latter list, and that the bill for the Supplement to Reading for the Young has not yet been rendered.

Work in hand or proposed for future publication. Mention has already been made of Supplements to Reading for the Young and to the A. L. A. Index. In accordance with the recommendation made by the Association two years ago a brief list of books for children's reading has been compiled by Miss C. M. Hewins, of the Hartford Public Library. She submitted her manuscript some months ago, and it was referred back to her with the request that she

add notes descriptive, critical, and comparative, and allow members of the board and others, at her discretion, to see galley proofs. The list, which is to be sold at a very small price, might have been pushed forward this summer, but it was thought better to defer it until later in the year, and until after the publication of the Sargent list.

Mr. George Iles offers to furnish the manuscript for two more annotated lists, one on music, compiled by Mr. H. E. Krehbiel, the other on fine arts, by Mr. Russell Sturgis. The same gentlemen were the editors of the corresponding sections of the "List for Girls and Women," but the catalogs now proposed are much fuller. The board has accepted Mr. Iles's offer, and the lists will doubtless be published in the course of the coming winter.

Another work which librarians have long considered of the first importance the Publishing Section desires to undertake in the immediate future, namely, an Index to portraits contained in books and magazines. There is doubtless much material already accessible in various public libraries which can be drawn upon in compiling such an index; but the largest body of material of this kind available known to us is that of Mr. Bunford Samuel, of the Library Company of Philadelphia. Mr. Samuel has indexed, we understand, all the works in the Ridgeway Branch of that library, and others besides, and has now 40,000 references to the portraits of about 22,000 individuals. He has kindly submitted a description of his work and of the principles which he has followed, from which it appears that he has included among his portraits caricatures, reproductions of medals, statues, etc. He states that the index "is non-selective and general in character, indexing all portraits contained in works covered by it, without regard either to the importance of the individual represented or to the value of the portrait. This plan necessarily indexes much of slight and ephemeral value, but it has been adopted from the following considerations: Library practice shows that almost any item of information on a given subject is sure to be of some use in time, so that it is difficult to predict certainly of anything that it has no value. And, in regard to portraits, one which is of little value now may, owing to the celebrity of a descendant or other causes, become of value later. Such a plan eliminates

the personal judgment of the compiler, and, in particular, by it the necessity of future search for any given portrait, that might in the selective plan be supposed to have been omitted, is obviated." Mr. Samuel considers "that the ideas of at once gathering the material and passing upon its value are to a large extent incompatible." He has, therefore, not attempted to determine the authenticity or any doubtful points in regard to portraits, and has given only such details in regard to artists and engravers as the plate or the context itself furnishes. He has not yet sent us a complete list of the works indexed, but it appears that he has paid special attention to periodicals. Another accumulation of material of the same kind is to be found in the Boston Athenæum, where the indexing of plates in the larger illustrated books has been carried on for many years. The portrait references perhaps number about 10,000, and may represent some 6000 persons. The work done at the Athenæum has duplicated Mr. Samuel's to a remarkably small degree, the original interest having been at the Athenæum in the portraits as works of art, so that art periodicals and extensive publications relating to art were the first indexed, while Mr. Samuel has begun his work at the other end and taken first the more numerous but less artistically valuable illustrations in general periodicals. These two collections it is expected will make an admirable basis for further enlargement, and the first necessary step seems to be to print a list of the works already indexed, and a tentative list of works which should be indexed, to which additions can be made on the suggestion of librarians who are interested. It must then be decided just what descriptive details are desirable, and a working plan laid out by which to secure the co-operation of many librarians. It will probably be found wise to limit the descriptive details, as Mr. Samuel has done, to the names of artist and engraver, with an occasional explanatory note in cases where the portrait is a caricature, medal, statue, or death-mask, or represents the subject at some particular age or under particular conditions. Some further communication in regard to the details of the work of compilation may be expected in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Other suggestions which have been made to the board in regard to desirable publications are a Manual on the use of government documents,

an Elementary manual on cataloging, with illustrations, a specimen of which has been submitted for our examination, and a Manual on the use of reference-books. A Manual on reference-books has been already partly prepared by Miss Kroeger, of Philadelphia, who presented a synopsis and a specimen of her work. The board discussed the scope and character that such a work could usefully have, and asked Miss Kroeger to submit for their examination "an elementary text-book designed to teach the use of reference-books."

It may be expected also that the Library Primer, which has been appearing by instalments in a preliminary form in *Public Libraries*, will soon be presented to the Publishing Section for printing.

Perhaps the most important question which has recently come before the executive board is the proposition of the Library Bureau that we should undertake the work which it has carried on for the last three years—the issue of printed catalog cards for new books. The story of this work is briefly this:—about 5000 cards issued every year for some 1700 new works published; on an average 60 sets have been sent out, making some 300,000 cards distributed in the course of the year. The price has been \$7.50, \$9, and \$10.50 a thousand cards, according to the quality of the stock used. This experiment, it must be said, has been distinctly more successful than any previous one made along the same lines, and in spite of the small number of sets sold it has just about paid expenses. The principal difficulty has been to obtain books promptly and steadily from the publishers, and it has only been by constant watchfulness at the book-stores and continual prodding of the publishers that a degree of promptness has been attained which has satisfied most reasonable demands. The cataloging being done at the Library Bureau, where there is no adequate collection of reference-books, has been hampered by this lack, but for the general accuracy and promptness of the work all praise is due to the energy and enthusiasm of Miss Nina E. Browne, of the Library Bureau.

The managers of the Library Bureau think that the difficulty of obtaining books from the publishers and the imperfections of the cataloging will both be obviated if the Publishing Section will become directly responsible for the work. The executive board recognizes

the justness of the Library Bureau's position and has discussed the subject in all its aspects. The first thought naturally is that this work should be done at one of the Library schools, but it is very doubtful if the necessary promptness could be secured, and the Albany school at least is too far from publishing centres. The schools themselves also do not seem anxious to take the job. On the whole the most feasible plan seems to be that the cataloging should be done at the office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, duplicate slips being written at the same time for their record and for our use, and that the printing and distribution of the cards be carried on at the Library Bureau as at present.*

Certain slight changes in the form of the cards will probably be made, but we shall continue on practically the same plan. At the foot of the card we shall still give the decimal class number, the dictionary catalog headings, and the expansive classification mark. The Board would be inclined to omit all of these particulars, as they increase considerably the cost of the work and the difficulty of getting it done properly, but the answers to a circular of inquiry, sent out by the Library Bureau, indicate that this feature of the cards is generally valued by those who use them.

By a change in the basis of subscriptions we hope to increase the number of sets subscribed for. It is manifestly impossible to allow each purchaser to select from the whole number printed simply those he wants, yet to take the whole number costs from \$37.50 to \$52.50 a year, a price which in practice is prohibitory to many libraries, for it is found that even under the most favorable conditions a library can use not much more than one-third of the cards it receives. Probably it is not wise to cut down the number of titles cataloged much (they are

only about one-third the number recorded in *The Publishers' Weekly*), but it might be practicable to allow libraries to subscribe to a select list of those now printed representing only the more important books, and covering, it would be expected, most of the purchases of the smaller libraries. If we can considerably increase the number of subscribers on this line without cutting down too far thereby the number of subscribers to the whole set, we can still make both ends meet and perform a larger service to the libraries. If, on the other hand, the number of subscribers to the large set were very much diminished by this change, it would show that we ought to drop the more extensive plan and keep up only the restricted list.*

Another subject which has come before the Publishing Section must be briefly mentioned. During the last year the Massachusetts Library Club has issued monthly lists of new fiction recommended for purchase by a committee of fifteen readers, each book having been read by at least three members of the committee, and those cases in which the opinion of the readers was not clearly unanimous, having been discussed in a meeting of all the readers held monthly. The club has found that the expense of this undertaking is more than it can afford for a second year, and the Publishing Section was asked if it could take the List and issue it. The executive board replied that they would print and distribute the List if the club would bear the expense of preparation, in return for which service members of the club and Massachusetts libraries would receive it at half price, twenty-five cents a year. The expense of preparation is about \$75 a year, and even this sum the Club does not feel justified in continuing to devote to this use, and in addition, great difficulty is found in securing the continuous services of competent readers and of a person to manage the work. The List seems to have been of very little value to the larger libraries, but of some real help to the smaller ones, and it is a pity that it should be given up. The executive board suggests that it would be a good plan for the New York Library Club to take the matter up for the next year, and for other clubs to undertake it in turn, and that the List be printed, not as a separate leaflet or sheet, but

* Since the meeting of the Association the executive board has met again and after further discussion of the whole situation has decided that the time has come when it ought to have in its employ a competent person at work upon its various undertakings. The secretary has accordingly been authorized to employ a cataloger to work under his direction, probably at the Boston Athenæum. This assistant will catalog the books for the printed cards, will push along the work on the A. L. A. Index supplement, and on the Portrait Index, will be ready to read proof of other work when needed, to send out circulars, to keep the books of the section, and relieve the secretary of correspondence and other clerical work.

* A circular proposing a somewhat different plan was sent out in December, 1896.

in the *Literary News* and other library and literary papers. If we can do anything to promote such an arrangement we shall be glad to.

The last matter which the Board wishes to bring before the Section is an important but revolutionary one. It is nothing less, in fact, than the entire reorganization of our work on a different basis.

As constituted at present the Section consists of about 50 members (most of them libraries and a few individuals) who have paid membership subscriptions of \$5, in return for which they have received the publications of the Section charged at 20 per cent. discount on list prices, and as many additional copies as they required up to the amount of the subscriptions credited to them, a new \$5 subscription being called for when that already paid had been exhausted. It had been intended at the beginning to make the subscription an *annual* charge, on the plan of the English publishing societies, but it was found to be impracticable to arrange yearly for publications of an approximately equal value, and as it also appeared that some members would want one copy and others several copies of single publications, the more elastic method of accounting was adopted. This, however, makes necessary separate accounts with the several members, each account being charged with a different number of publications, and renewed each at its own time. The distinction between members and non-members has also caused some inconvenience and delay, orders from the former being filled by the treasurer and those from the latter by the Library Bureau. These complications, however, could be kept straight, and the business conducted in a fairly satisfactory manner, though at the cost of some additional labor and watchfulness, if there appeared to be any sufficient resulting advantage. It was thought at the beginning that the Section would profit from the system adopted by having a considerable sum in hand as capital for immediate use, and that the libraries would be benefited by the 20 per cent. discount allowed them. But the number of members which the Section has had at any time has been so small that the advantage of their advance payments has been but slight, and the 20 per cent. discount has apparently not been a sufficient inducement to the libraries to overcome the disadvantage of having to take all publications and make ad-

vance payment therefor—an arrangement to which library boards generally object.

It is therefore proposed to drop this feature of our organization, and to make the Publishing Section simply a board of five members, appointed by the Association as other standing committees are appointed, its work being "to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve." This may be done by abolishing its present constitution and inserting a new section in the A. L. A. constitution defining its duties, method of appointment and organization.

If this change is made the present accounts of members will be balanced and closed as opportunity occurs, and in the future the Library Bureau, which acts as our publishing agent, will fill all orders.

The means for carrying on our work will be derived—as they have been principally in the past—from the Endowment Fund, in the form either of loans or appropriations—loans to provide for the expense of publications which will yield a return, and appropriations to cover other expenses which cannot be made good in the course of business.

Running expenses might properly be borne by the treasury of the Association under appropriation by the Finance Committee.

The Board therefore recommends that the following votes be passed:

Voted, that the Treasurer be instructed to receive no new membership subscriptions and to close the accounts of present members as he has opportunity with a view to the dissolution of the Section as at present constituted, at the end of another year.

Voted, that the following amendment be proposed to the Constitution of the A. L. A., namely, to insert a new section between §§ 15 and 16 substantially as follows:

16. *Publishing Section*.—The Publishing Section shall consist of five members appointed by the Executive Board for terms of not more than three years. Its object shall be to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve.

The Section shall annually appoint from its own number a chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

No moneys shall be paid by the treasurer ex-

cept with the written approval of three other members of the Section, and no work shall be undertaken except by vote of a majority of the whole Section.

The treasury of the Section is entirely distinct from that of the Association, and the Association is not liable for any debts incurred by the Section. With the approval of the Finance Committee money may be appropriated from the treasury of the Association for the running expenses of the Section, but the Section depends on the Endowment Fund as the financial basis of its undertakings.

The Section shall report in writing at each annual meeting of the A. L. A.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

For the Executive Board,

WILLIAM C. LANE,
Secretary and Treasurer.

A. L. PECK moved that the resolution of the Executive Board in relation to the vote of thanks to Mr. Iles be adopted. *Voted.*

S. S. GREEN. — In regard to the report in general, it is not proper for us to adopt the report or audit the treasurer's account, but simply to receive the report. I move that the report be received and the thanks of the Association be presented to the Publishing Section for the very valuable work which it has done the last year, and to the secretary for the long and interesting report of their doings which he has presented to-day, and that the Treasurer's statement be referred to the Auditing Committee. *Voted.*

F. M. CRUNDEN. — There was one point brought out in the report that I would like to speak of. The Lists issued by the Massachusetts Library Club, it was modestly stated, would, perhaps, hardly be of use in a large library. We claim to have in St. Louis a large library. We have found those Lists useful. They are certainly worth 50 cents, and I hope every one in this room who has not tried them will invest 50 cents in their purchase.

A. L. PECK stated that he had found them very useful.

S. S. GREEN. — As we all know, the National Educational Association made a new section at its last meeting in July, which is to consider specially the connection of libraries and schools. It seems to me eminently proper that this Association should appoint a committee to express

the sympathy of this organization with the work which that section of the National Educational Association has undertaken, and that this committee should also offer to do anything in its power to aid in the work which the officers of that section may think it desirable for the committee to do. I understand also that the section of the National Educational Association voted that it would like to have this Association represented at its meetings by delegates. I would move that a committee of five be appointed by the executive committee to act as the committee, expressing sympathy and offering aid, and that these same five persons act as delegates of this Association to the meetings of the National Educational Association. *Seconded.*

W. R. EASTMAN. — Inasmuch as the library department of the National Educational Association of Buffalo expressly instructed its officers to consult with the A. L. A. at this meeting, there is no need of our taking this action, or offering advice. We have not been asked for it, any more than that they cordially invited not only this Association but every other library association in the United States to send delegates to their meetings, so that we are not in a position to offer advice.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — The invitation has not yet been presented to us.

Mr. GREEN. — If there is no objection I will withdraw my motion and renew it at a later session.

SUPPLEMENT TO READING FOR THE YOUNG.

W. C. LANE. — I should be glad if you would take pains to provide yourselves with the circulars which are on hand. I expect as large a sale for that as we had for the original book. You will see on the circular that advance subscriptions are asked for immediately to an edition which shall contain both the original list and this supplemental list — the two bound together. We want to get in orders early so as to be able to judge better how many to print. In regard to the Index of portraits, I should be very glad to talk with anybody who has material accumulated at home which can be used.

TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

W. I. FLETCHER moved that the paper by Mr. John Thomson on this subject which is on the program for this session, be the first order of business for the morning session to-morrow. *Voted.*

W. H. TILLINGHAST. — The report of the Co-operation Committee has been printed in the preliminary form and distributed. The committee held a meeting, its first and only meeting, this morning, and voted to present that report as the report of the committee. At that meeting a suggestion was made by Mr. Beer, a member of the committee, that this Association would do well to prepare a list of newspapers published in the United States down to 1825, arranged in chronological order of their first appearance, and the committee voted to add that recommendation to the report as printed, and they would submit the report as printed, with that addition, to the Association.

REPORT OF THE CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE —
1896.

The co-operation committee was created by the Constitution of the A. L. A., and is now in the 20th year of its service. Appreciation of its work will be most vivid if gathered from the records in the files of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, but the committee of 1893, Mr. Brett, chairman, taking pity upon the little leisure of librarians, gave at Chicago a sketch of the history of the committee, which all would do well to read. As first organized in 1877, the committee was the right hand of the Association. It consisted of three members, Messrs. Cutter, Perkins, and Jackson, with Mr. Dewey as secretary. In 1880, Mr. Scudder succeeded Mr. Perkins; in 1882, Mr. C. B. Tillinghast succeeded Mr. Jackson; in 1883, Mr. Lane succeeded Mr. Scudder. All near neighbors, holding frequent sessions and meeting constantly informally, the committee outlined within a short time most of the work that has since been accomplished—laid the foundations of a library code and fostered the habit of agreement. Its work developed in three directions: In formulating library customs and methods; in stimulating invention, valuing devices and reducing cost of materials; in preparing bibliographic aids. From the committee sprang in due time the supply department, now incarnated as the Library Bureau and the Publishing Section, for the conduct of the second and third branches of the work. Thus is left to the committee the field of suggestion, advice, and criticism. If its energy has seemed somewhat to flag of late, it seems so in part because of this division and delegation of its duties, in part because its function as a

demonstrator of methods has been occasionally assigned to individuals. If there be any truth in the seeming, it is due, we may be sure, not to lack of interest on the part of the committees, but to difficulties in consultation arising from the selection of members residing widely apart. Mr. Dewey pointed out the difficulty in his report read at Denver, and the change in manner of appointment was made, no doubt, with that point in view. Custom, however, once more prevailed, and the present committee is widely scattered. Committee work by correspondence requires superhuman attributes, and this report was not submitted to the members of the committee except in outline before it was sent in. It therefore lacks the benefit of full discussion.

The duty of the co-operation committee is to "consider and report on plans for securing improvement, economy, uniformity and harmony in any department of library work." In so doing it justifies its name, yet may properly suggest much in which co-operation, as commonly understood, has small share. As a method of production or of exchange, co-operation is a resource for such as have small means, or scanty numbers, or aim at an unusual end. What very many people want the ordinary channels of trade will supply; what few people want, or want under special conditions, yet must have cheaply, those channels will frequently fail to supply. Hence, co-operation, where special intelligence and an enthusiasm that scorns to reckon the full expenditure of time and thought achieve what cautious trade would not undertake. The spirit is noble, the working together for a common end earns dividends that do not appear in the yearly balance. Yet co-operation is exchange, and it is possible to give too much and get too little, especially if the terms of the exchange are not reduced to money values. Barter is out of place in co-operation, to which it is not essential. Nor should it be forgotten that it is often more difficult to withdraw from a co-operative undertaking without producing ill-will than to sever an ordinary business connection. In short, the benefits of applied co-operation involve returns, and the inexperienced should bear in mind that a scheme is not necessarily to be adopted because it is co-operative. The co-operation on which the A. L. A. is based, however, is something higher than a special method, it is the soul of social progress,

the free exchange of ideas, making the gain of each the gain of all; in which exchange no one can be a loser.

The phases of co-operation in library work which present themselves at this time may be roughly divided into neighborhood, general and international co-operation.

Neighborhood co-operation is sufficiently defined by the term used, and may be applied to growth or use. Co-operation in growth may be attained by union, as in New York, by the representation of one library on the controlling board of another, as in Hartford, or by simple agreement, such as has just been formulated in Chicago, and exists in fact in Boston, Brooklyn, and elsewhere. The aim, in either case, is a division of function to a greater or less extent and the prevention of wasteful duplication, without injury to the service-rendering power of any participant. This may be facilitated by a system of notification between adjacent libraries of purchases of rare or valuable works. For this purpose a printed form on a reply postal card, devised by Mr. Lane, is used by the Boston Athenæum and Harvard College Library. The card reads: "Dear Sir: I beg to ask if the work mentioned on the annexed card is owned by your library; also, in case you do not now own it, if you intend to purchase it. Your answer will be kept on file for future reference." At Harvard College this is done by placing the reply in the official card catalog. The reply card reads: "Author Title Owned by..... Purchase ordered by..... Date....." This is supplemented at the Boston Athenæum by sending to neighboring libraries announcements of important purchases on a similar form. These when received at Harvard College Library are filed in the official catalog.

Somewhat similar methods are available between small libraries situated within convenient distance of one another, and might be supplemented by exchange of catalogs or marking of standard catalogs like the A. L. A. Catalog, or better still, the projected 500-volume catalog, in libraries of recent growth. It would often be practicable and desirable for neighboring libraries having imperfect sets of reports, etc., to combine these into one more perfect set, the library receiving the set agreeing to continue and complete it. Indeed a division of the task of keeping up sets of documents, and even of

some periodicals and serials, might be made to advantage.

Co-operation in use is a more delicate matter, though to a certain extent practicable and frequently practised. It is distinctly a courtesy, however, and one that depends on comparatively infrequent use. If it ever dies it will be of a plethora. The larger libraries are glad to permit persons recommended to them by other libraries to consult particular books, even if their rules do not open their reading-rooms to all comers. Several large libraries lend books readily for use in other libraries, but it is generally required that such use should be in the interest of scholarship, not for general reading, and that the books wanted should be at once not too easy of access elsewhere and not too rare. The line between duty to itself and its future, and the obligation which the possession of opportunity imposes even on corporations, each library must draw for itself, but if the more important libraries would define in print the limits of such privileges, the dissemination of that information would be of great value to other libraries without being injurious on either side. The Harvard College Library has a printed circular stating its customs as to loans, and the Boston Public Library has just adopted a printed form for application for loans, but in neither case is an attempt made to place this information before libraries generally.

Small libraries in thinly populated districts often suffer severely from dearth of new books. The reading power of the people vastly exceeds their power to buy books. The state helps to establish libraries; it may well undertake, either by direct grants or by travelling libraries, etc., to maintain the libraries at a reasonable level of usefulness, with care not to undermine local self-helpfulness. How far co-operation among groups of such libraries is possible would be an interesting topic for debate. Direct exchange of books from the existing stock would seldom be practicable, but a combination of purchasing funds with the condition of exchange until each participant had the benefit of all the books, might, as was lately suggested, be worth trying.

By general co-operation is meant such co-operative work as may be useful to all libraries regardless of their situation with respect to one another. Such work may take the form of preparation of bibliographic aids or of various developments of organization. Under the for-

mer head much has already been achieved, such as Poole's Index, and its continuation, the Index to general literature, the Index of subject headings, the A. L. A. Catalog, the Chicago papers, the lists of books for the young, for girls' clubs, etc., and much is in progress under the efficient control of the Publishing Section.

An Index of portraits has been a desideratum. It was suggested in Mr. Fletcher's report in 1888, and a special report on the subject was made by Mr. Bowker at St. Louis in 1889, which summed up the work that had been done in that line, but was not hopeful of any particular result from co-operative action. It is good to know that the Publishing Section has under consideration the publication of such an index, based in part upon the work already done by Mr. Bunford Samuel, of Philadelphia, and in part upon the co-operative indexing of portraits undertaken by the Athenæum and other libraries. This latter work is done upon cards, designed by Mr. Lane, where the labor of entry is much reduced by underlining the terms applicable to the work in hand, from among a number of terms printed on the card.

E. g.:

DESCRIPTION. Head; length; seated (.....face, profile); recumbent; equestrian; caricature.

ORIGINAL. Photograph; painting; drawing; miniature; sketch; statue; bust; bas-relief.

Such work will have great permanent value, but it is not intended to supply reference always up to date to portraits of celebrities of the hour which are much in demand in public libraries, yet as hard to find when wanted as the private address of a widely-known person.

A field of work as yet barely entered upon is the preparation of indexes to indexless books — a term that ought to express a contradiction of nature. Think of the volumes of essays, the collected works, the voyages and travels, the town histories, the genealogies that exist and are still being printed without indexes, or, what is almost worse, without adequate indexes. The harvest is ripe, where are the laborers? No organization of method is necessary. Any librarian having a bulletin can place the result of work in this line at the service of other libraries, as was recently done by Mr. Bolton. Can we not have more such work? The matter of outward form is not of great importance. Most of us would be glad to get an index to place in an

indexless book, even though the book were quarto and the index sixteenmo.

Another work of value would be an index of poetry by title, first lines, and subject. It should cover as wide a field as possible, not wholly neglecting fugitive verse, and including lyrics in dramas and short poems. Something more extensive is needed than the volume: "A concise poetical concordance to the principal poets of the world," etc. By C. A. Durfee, N. Y. 1883. Sr. 800.

It is suggested by Mr. Beer, of the committee, that a list of newspapers published in the United States before 1825, with indication of the libraries in which files and parts of files of the newspapers are to be found, be compiled so that access to a given issue of any paper may be facilitated. Such a list would have great value, and, if not already in course of preparation, might well be undertaken by the Association.

An interesting experiment, yet hanging between success and failure, has been made during the past year by the Massachusetts Library Club, in the preparation of monthly lists of selected fiction. Finding itself possessed of that evil thing, a surplus, the Club resolved to issue these lists for a year, in the hope that if they proved useful to libraries of limited means some method might be devised to place their publication on a permanent footing. The work was placed in the hands of a committee of 15 readers, divided into five groups, and a chairman and secretary. Each book placed on the lists is approved by three readers. The lists were sent free to public libraries in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and to subscribers for 25 cents for the 12 numbers. The lists have met with approval, about 170 subscriptions having been received, but they must prove themselves worth their full cost if they are to be continued, as the income of the Club is entirely insufficient to meet the expense beyond the year of trial. The Publishing Section has offered to take over the work of printing and distribution, but the cost of preparation, involving much expressage and postage, is likely to exceed two-thirds of the Club's income, nor is it likely that the membership of any local association can furnish readers indefinitely. A larger co-operation is indicated.

The future of co-operative cataloging by means of printed cards is undecided at the present time, but the history of that undertaking is

too well known to need more than mention here. The difficulty in such work is the remarkably small proportion of the same books which two or more libraries receive at the same time. The success of co-operative cataloging depends on making the supply of available cards so inclusive of the best books, so prompt, and their character so attractive in typography, annotation, etc., that they compensate for the unused cards, unless some scheme of selection can be made to work. There is, however, one field in which co-operative work might be done to advantage: in analyzing Transactions, *Mémoires*, and *Abhandlungen* of learned societies, and perhaps in cataloging books issued in series. If but two or three libraries could divide the work on but a few sets of this sort the gain to them would not be small.

The cataloging of serials received at infrequent intervals, but of indefinite continuance, in a separate catalog, either on large cards or laced sheets or in bound blank-books, proves of so great value when it has been tried, in saving work, facilitating reference, and keeping up sets, that the supplying of blank forms for such work might be profitable. Possibly in the case of state reports, etc., there might be a demand for sheets containing a printed conspectus of the sets up to date, which libraries could buy, check, and continue. It should be said, however, that the use of a bound book for such work has one advantage over sheets capable of alphabetical arrangement. It is much easier to carry in the mind from the reference in the main catalog to the serial catalog a volume and page number than to remember a title entry, which in reports of commissions, societies, etc., is apt to be long and complicated.

Turning to the co-operation of organization, the source of all co-operative work, and in itself the field, perhaps, wherein the greatest gains are still to be expected, we note its increasing growth. A few years since and the A. L. A. was all, now we can count at least 18 state and four city organizations. This growth will continue, fraught as it is with good, and will still further develop. Mr. Bowker said at Northampton, the other day, that it was pleasant to feel that a member of one association is a member of all, and welcome to attend meetings wherever he may be. Let us hope that this spirit of fraternity will be encouraged by all library clubs. Library work is a solvent of social conventions,

members of one club are supposed to be friends, not strangers, and to converse without introduction—the associations themselves should cultivate a like spirit. It is sometimes possible for an association to hold a meeting in a place accessible from one or more other states. In such cases the meeting may to advantage be made interstate, not necessarily very formally, but by inviting the associations of other states as a body and individually to attend.

Much would be gained in many places by the establishment of local clubs, affiliated with the state association. Hardly any state is so small that all parts are equally accessible to the state association. There will be districts where it cannot meet oftener than once in a year or two. The librarians of these distant parts can generally ill afford to attend meetings held afar off. The result is that the cost of the annual fee exceeds for them the benefits of memberships and they hesitate to join. A local club, meeting more easily, attended occasionally by delegates from the state association and sending delegates to state meetings, at the charge of the club, would meet the difficulties. There are several city clubs, and New Hampshire has a local club, the Cochecho Library Club, but attention is here directed especially to those rural districts remote from towns, where intellectual isolation still prevails, and where, to help offset the attractions of the city, it is necessary that we should do all in our power to create and to satisfy book-hunger.

An exchange of club publications is desirable, and this is now much facilitated by the enterprise of the LIBRARY JOURNAL in printing in each number the names of presidents and secretaries of associations. Committees in charge of club work find it useful to see what other associations have discussed; information as to future programs might be usefully exchanged between neighboring associations, with a view to co-operating on topics.

It is sometimes thought necessary not to dwell upon the social side of association meetings. This is always a misfortune and generally a mistake. Librarians are too much in earnest not to bend even their pleasure to their professional gain. The greatest advantage of such meetings is often got in private conversation and the extension of acquaintance. Formal papers are desirable; they help us to "orient" ourselves, but the most helpful discussions are

generally those that are most conversational in tone. Nor is there any reason why purely social gatherings and entertainments should not be held by library clubs.

Finally, there remains the simplest form of co-operative work, for which a word should be said because it is often neglected. The librarian, and still more the assistant, generally takes as little time as possible away from the library, dreading the judgment of trustees. Certainly the work in the library is the first duty, and even the appearance of neglect of duty must be sedulously avoided, but the library where the librarian and staff never get an afternoon or a day off to visit other libraries, except, perhaps, on occasion of an association meeting, suffers from the omission. Teachers are expected to visit other schools; trustees would do well to see that librarians make careful personal acquaintance with the working of all noteworthy libraries within their reach, and librarians should secure the same privilege, as far as possible, for their assistants.

In international co-operation the event of the year will be, of course, the conference to take place in July, in London, under the auspices of the Royal Society, to formulate a plan for the co-operative indexing to current scientific literature. The fact that the action of the conference will be definitely known when the A. L. A. meets at Cleveland, makes it unnecessary to dwell upon the matter now, but there can be little doubt that the next century will see a series of determined efforts to effect bibliographical control of the stream of literature.

At the beginning of this report certain difficulties were mentioned as inherent in the present custom of appointing this committee. In conclusion, the following recommendations are offered: that this committee should be so chosen that a majority should live near enough together to hold meetings for the discussion of matters within their province; that it should have a certain permanency, to enable it to formulate its activities and transmit a tradition of procedure, being appointed for more than a year, or having a certain number of members retire each year in a fixed order, and finally that it have the duty of procuring written reports from competent persons, not necessarily members of the committee, upon various branches of library work and their progress during the year, such reports—upon cataloging, classification, refer-

ence work, etc.—to be presented to the conference under the names of their authors, as a part of the co-operative report, but not to supersede a general report and suggestions from the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

W: H. TILLINGHAST,

W: BEER,

M. EMOGENE HAZELTINE,

G: T. LITTLE,

KATHARINE L. SHARP,

} *Co-operation
Committee.*

C. A. NELSON moved that the discussion of the report be postponed. *Voted.*

The Committee on Foreign Documents reported progress as per Report printed in the Preliminary Papers, which was accepted without reading.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN DOCUMENTS.

The committee regret that at this date they are able only to make a partial report. European officials who have been approached are slow in making response, but possibly we may have something definite from that field by the time the convention opens in Cleveland.

Mr. C. H. Gould, librarian of McGill University, Montreal, one of our number, has sent in the following report on Canada, which will be helpful to all concerned:

"All of the provincial governments, with the exception of that of Quebec, say they know of no difficulty in the way of exchanging documents with state librarians. The Province of Quebec says that the item of expense would for the present prevent the idea of making exchanges.

"Following are lists of different series issued by the several governments:

"*Dominion Government*—The sessional papers, Hansard reports, Geological Survey reports, Statutes, Year-Book, and any special royal commissions.

"*Prince Edward Island*—Journals of the Legislative Assembly, Statutes of the Province, Reports of the provincial Auditor, and Reports of the departments of Education, Public Works, and Crown Lands.

"*Nova Scotia*—The acts or laws passed at each annual session of the Legislature, Legislative debates, Journals of the Legislature, and departmental reports.

"*Quebec*—Not exchangeable, as yet.

"*New Brunswick*—Report of the Auditor-

general (containing statement of the receipts and expenditures of the provisional government), Reports of departments of Crown Lands, Education, Public Works, Public Health, Agriculture, and Lunatic Asylum.

"*British Columbia*—Reports of Education, Mining, Lands and Works (including Timber); Crown-land surveys, agricultural, etc. Also, occasional reports of a semi-official character, pamphlets, and special publications."

The following letter from Mr. Griffin gives all necessary information relative to Dominion publications:

"OTTAWA, June 4, 1895.

"DEAR SIR: Your letter to the Secretary of State has been forwarded to me for reply. In regard to the publications of the Dominion government, they are no doubt all in your library, *i. e.*

"The sessional papers.

"The Hansard reports.

"The Geological Survey reports.

"The statutes.

"The Year-Book.

"And any special royal commissions.

"These documents are purchasable from the Queen's printer, who will supply a price list on application. They are exchanged with the provincial governments and with such states as have made arrangements with the Library of Parliament.

"As to exchanges with the states of the American Union, a system has been established these many years. The Library of Parliament receives and distributes exchanges with the United States and with such of the states as it is desirable to exchange with. Each legislative library in Canada has its own system and exchange list.

"Pray command me if I can be of any further use in this matter. I am, dear sir,

"Very faithfully yours,

"MARTIN J. GRIFFIN.

"To C. H. Gould, Esq."

Mr. Gould's report gives us no information about Newfoundland. I am able to add personally, that the officials thereof appear to be desirous of obtaining reports from the several United States. I am at present, through the United States consul at St. Johns, arranging for my own library an exchange of Wisconsin documents for those of the island. No doubt other

state-supported libraries, with documents to spare, can negotiate similar exchanges.

Respectfully submitted,

REUBEN G. THWAITES, *Chairman.*

JULY 1, 1896.

FURTHER REPORT OF THE FOREIGN DOCUMENT COMMITTEE.

MADISON, Wis., July 27, 1896.

In October, 1895, I asked Mr. C. H. Stevens, of the Boston Book Co., who was just then departing upon a business trip to the several English-speaking colonies around the globe, to gather for this committee information under the following heads:

1. A list, so far as possible, of the series of public documents issued by the several foreign governments, with which he should come in contact.

2. A statement of the terms upon which such documents are published — whether for free distribution within the respective countries, or for sale; if the latter, the prices asked. What privileges, if any, do public libraries enjoy with said countries in this respect?

3. Upon what terms can the principal state, state-supported, and university libraries, obtain these documents from the several countries? Many of these institutions within the United States publish works of considerable value, or can control the distribution of the documents — can these be exchanged with foreign countries for the documents issued by the latter?

Mr. Stevens has recently returned home, and sends me the annexed report of his investigations. The lists of documents promised by the several governments have not yet come to hand; if they arrive in time they will be synopsized for the Cleveland meeting.

The sincere thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Stevens, who has been at much trouble in our behalf. The information which he sends will prove useful as a basis for individual operations upon the part of those librarians who feel in a position to offer foreign governments *quid pro quo*.

REUBEN G. THWAITES, *Chairman.*

DEAR MR. THWAITES: I send you herewith the results of my inquiries about public documents exchanges with British colonies in Australia, India, etc. I have asked the proper authorities in each country to mail you a list of

the government documents at their disposal, so that with these lists and addresses our librarians can send counter lists and make direct a definite proposition of exchange.

The results are not as satisfactory as I could wish, but I regret to say that there is not in these countries the same energy and interest in library matters as is shown here in America. With few exceptions the officials in charge do not as yet show much appreciation of American public documents, placing little value upon such as they already have and showing little desire to add to them. Even when offered them in exchange they argue lack of room, or labor of cataloging, infrequency of use, etc. In Australia, too, where there has been such a long-continued financial depression, some of the governments have gone to the extreme in economizing on their public printing, and have unwisely cut down their issue of public documents, sometimes entirely discontinuing those not absolutely necessary, and again printing only a small number for the necessary supply to certain departments and officials. In India there is so much red tape that I could accomplish little or nothing for you. As all Indian exchanges are conducted by the Indian office in London with the Smithsonian Institution, they preferred that all applications should come from our librarians *officially*.

But meagre as are the results, I think that my information may serve as a starting-point for official application on the part of such librarians as wish to make exchanges, and if I can further assist in any way I shall be glad to do so.

Very truly yours,

C. H. STEVENS.

GENERAL ANSWERS TO YOUR INQUIRIES.

First. Lists of the public documents issued by the various foreign governments will be sent you by the custodians with whom exchanges may be negotiated. Reports of the courts are not as a rule issued by the government and are not classed as public documents.

Second. These public documents are not distributed free, but are for sale at prices indicated on the printed lists. As a rule free distribution is not made to libraries, except to the parliamentary library and occasionally in the Australian colonies to the public library at the seat of government.

Third. Several of our various state libraries

already have arrangements of *partial* exchange with these foreign countries, receiving, however, only such documents as seem to be of special interest. Where these exchanges are conducted through the Smithsonian Institution (as on Indian publications) it is for the purpose of saving postage, but it opens the way to delay and occasional loss of books. Official application will best accomplish further development of such exchange relations, and lists should first be exchanged showing what each library can offer to the other, and from these lists selection could be made of the documents desired.

INFORMATION BY COUNTRIES.

[The custodian of public documents in each country will mail you printed lists of his publications.]

New Zealand — Samuel Costall, government printer, Wellington, is custodian to whom application should be made for printed list. Proposition of exchange should be made to him, with counter list of books offered in exchange. He appreciates desirability of such exchange relations, and will assist as far as possible.

Tasmania — Wm. Grahame, government printer, Hobart, is custodian from whom you will receive list. Proposition of exchange and counter list should be sent to H. T. Manning, parliamentary librarian at Hobart, who will conduct further negotiations and give every assistance.

Victoria — R. S. Brain, government printer, Melbourne, is custodian, and will furnish lists. The parliamentary librarian, with whom exchanges should properly be made, is at present hampered from lack of room. Michael F. Dowden, librarian of Melbourne Public Library, is energetic, appreciates importance of exchange relations, and will assist in establishing them.

New South Wales — Chas. Potter, government printer, Sydney, is custodian, and will furnish lists. Mr. Wright (care of Public Library, Sydney) is chairman Board of International Exchanges, through whom negotiations should be made. H. C. L. Anderson, librarian of Public Library of New South Wales, Sydney, is interested in extending exchanges, and will help in so doing.

Queensland — Edmund Gregory, government printer, Brisbane, will furnish lists. D. O'Donovan is parliamentary librarian at Brisbane, but was away at time of my visit. I think, however, he will aid in further negotiations.

South Australia—Chas. E. Bristowe, government printer, Adelaide, will furnish lists. Jas. P. Morice is parliamentary librarian, and willing to help as far as possible; but, unfortunately, the government has cut down its printing department to the lowest point, and may object to further extending its exchanges.

India—Foreign exchanges for all the provinces of India are conducted by the India office in London, with the Smithsonian Institution. Propositions of further extending such exchanges should be made to Mr. Wade, care India Office, St. James Park, London.

Ceylon, Straits Settlements and Burma—The government printers will furnish lists of their documents, but they do not offer much encouragement of exchange relations.

Miss ALICE M. KROEGER being absent, her REPORT ON THE CONGRESS OF WOMEN LIBRARIANS AT ATLANTA, was read by title and ordered printed.
(See p. 57.)

Adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

FOURTH SESSION.

(THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 3.)

The Association was called to order by the President at 9:15 a.m.

The Secretary announced that the Executive Board had appointed the following committee to take charge of the European trip: S. S. Green, Mary S. Cutler, W. C. Lane, W. I. Fletcher, Mary W. Plummer.

S. S. GREEN.—I hold in my hand a resolution which Mr. Putnam, of the Boston Public Library, left with me. He had to go back to Boston yesterday afternoon. I will ask the secretary to read it in a moment. It relates to the matter under discussion yesterday regarding aid to be offered to the committee on the Congressional Library, and it meets the wants of both parties. But before I give this to the secretary I wish to say that Mr. Putnam came here at the request of his trustees and at great inconvenience to himself, spending two days with us, and that Mr. Whitney is here also from that library, both of them with the express purpose of showing the great interest which that important library has in the doings of this Association.

Sec. ELMENDORF.—I would like to add that we have a similar message from Dr. Billings,

of the New York consolidated libraries. Dr. Billings is now on the water on his return from the International Conference on scientific indexing held under the auspices of the Royal Society of England, and he says that he would like to be here, not that the New York consolidated library or Dr. Billings can do very much or anything, as he expresses it, for the A. L. A., but that both Dr. Billings and the New York consolidated libraries can get very much from this Association. Dr. Billings wrote a very cordial and very delightful letter.

Mr. Dewey, whom many have asked for during this conference, has also written us. It is not customary to read regrets from members, but I would like to inform the Association that Mr. Dewey greatly regrets his inability to be with us. He is a victim of hay fever which affects his eyes, and he is confined to his Adirondack home during the summer. He sends most cordial greetings and the most earnest wishes for the success of our meeting.

Pursuant to the orders of the Association yesterday, I cabled the L. A. U. K. in session at Buxton, England, as follows:

"American Library Association in session sends cordial greetings; formally accepts invitation to International Conference, London, July, 1897."

I have just received the following answer:

"Library Association, Cleveland: Library Association resolves to make conference a success. Cordial greetings. MacAlister, Sec."

The resolution offered by Mr. Putnam is as follows:

"Resolved, That the Association notes that the Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives on the Library of Congress is to sit and consider questions relating to the organization of the library in the new library building, with power to send for persons and papers.

"Resolved, That should such committee during the ensuing year request information or counsel of this Association, the president is authorized to appoint six members of the Association, who, with himself as chairman, shall act as a committee to furnish such information as may be within their power, and such counsel as seems to them to represent justly the views of this Association."

S. S. GREEN said that the resolution was approved by Mr. Bowker and Dr. Adler.

Voted, That the resolution be adopted.

Mr. JOHN THOMSON read a paper on

TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

(See p. 29.)

W. I. FLETCHER. — I wish to make a motion that whatever else happens with regard to our program this morning, at the hour of 10:30 we shall take up the joint meeting of the A. L. A. with the Trustees Section. We all know that trustees are busy men, and they made an appointment to be here at 10:30. It would be an unfortunate thing if they should be disappointed or delayed for half an hour. I move, therefore, in order that there may now be an understanding about it, that the program be adhered to in so far as that that meeting shall be held at 10:30. *Voted*.

C. A. NELSON. — While Mr. Thomson was reading the closing paragraphs of his paper, it occurred to me that he might add the police and fire stations in our cities and the life-saving stations on the coast. I think the men who are compelled to stay on the shore of this country and watch through storm and sunshine for vessels that may be in danger have certainly a very lonesome time of it, and if we can send travelling libraries to those stations we shall be doing a great deal of good work.

F. A. HUTCHINS. — I should like to call attention to one benefit that is derived from the travelling libraries. It meets a defect in the large libraries that was alluded to yesterday by our president. In Wisconsin, for instance, in the libraries established in Dunn County by Senator Stout, we selected first the 500 best popular books of the language, divided them into 16 libraries that go into 16 stations and are read by the people of farming communities, thus controlling their reading and holding them year by year to the best popular books of the language.

Mrs. LANA H. COPE. — I wish to say that in Iowa 200 letters have been received, and all are from the rural districts where there are no libraries. Very few have been asked for from clubs. This is very encouraging for us. We want to place these travelling libraries in just such communities where they have none. We want to stimulate them to read. This is my first attendance at the meetings of the American Library Association, and it gives me extreme pleasure to be here. There is an added strength and

cheer that comes to workers by hearing of the work that you are doing.

LODILLA AMBROSE. — I have had the privilege of summer visiting in a neighborhood in Michigan where a year ago they secured with a great deal of enthusiasm, very soon after the passage of the law, one of the travelling libraries, and this summer, with considerable effort, they have raised \$5 again and are going on for another year. The enthusiasm of some of those members would be worthy of A. L. A. members.

W. W. BISHOP. — I want to call attention as a teacher to the benefit the New York State libraries are to those engaged in summer school work. It would have been utterly impossible for the work at Chautauqua this summer to have been conducted in the manner that it was and with the success which we reached, had it not been for the books sent to us by the travelling libraries of the state of New York. We are all grateful, and we hope they will send us more next year.

Hon. J. H. STOUT. — I hardly know how I can add very much to the subject now under discussion, but for the benefit of those interested in the free travelling libraries system I would like to suggest that the important matter first to consider, as far as legislation is concerned, is that a state commission be created in order that the work may be systematically carried on and the books may be properly selected. We will make another effort in our state this winter to enlarge the work of the commission and we hope to meet with success.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

C. A. NELSON. — I have been handed a resolution which I think will meet with the approval of the Association, and which it would be well to pass, although it may not be absolutely necessary. It puts the matter in such shape that there can be no question another year concerning it.

"Voted, That the amendment to the Constitution of the A. L. A., submitted by the Publishing Section, be approved by this Conference and be submitted for adoption to the Conference of 1897, according to the requirements of our Constitution."

I move that this be adopted. *Voted*.

POOLE MEMORIAL FUND.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I desire to make a report from the committee on the Poole Memorial. You

remember, those of you who were present at the last convention, that it was decided that the memorial should take the form of a bronze bust. Dr. Wire, the secretary of the committee, has obtained estimates from two sculptors, and we find that a suitable bust can be obtained for a minimum of \$500. We must therefore raise that amount. We have thus far in hand a little over \$150. It seems to me that it ought not to be necessary to make any appeal to librarians to adopt this measure of recognition to one of the pioneers in the profession. As Pres. Dana said yesterday, we ought all of us who are now in this work to acknowledge our indebtedness to those who have gone before, who have lifted it to the dignity of a profession. I therefore think that every library worker, however humble, should take a pleasure and pride in contributing to this memorial. We have had one contribution from a librarian of \$15. We do not, of course, expect many such as that. We have had one from a publisher of \$10, and we have had a number from librarians of \$5. The subscriptions have gone all the way to 50 cents. I think there are few librarians or assistants who cannot contribute that much, and I hope that at this session we shall complete the amount necessary, either actually handed in or at least pledged. It will be more convenient to hand in the cash and then it will be done with. Any one of the committee is authorized to take subscriptions or collect the money—Dr. Wire, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Wing, or myself. They will be conveniently placed at the close of this meeting, and you can see one of us and give what you choose.

W. I. FLETCHER. — I am entirely unprepared to make any special remarks about this matter, and there is only one remark that I should think of making, and that is that it seems to me a great deal more desirable that this fund shall be an expression of the appreciation of Dr. Poole and his labors on the part of a large number than that it should come from a few. I have not any doubt at all that this sum could be raised by passing a subscription paper to a few with a statement of the fact that so many \$10 or so many \$5 would complete it; but it seems to me it is a great deal better that every one who would like to be represented should have a fair opportunity to do so, and that a large number of small subscriptions should be welcomed even more than a small number of large

ones. I think it will be found desirable that there shall be some gifts of \$5 or \$10. It is not that I would economize gifts which some will make, but I wish it to be distinctly recognized that it will be a very acceptable thing to the committee to have gifts of 25 or 50 cents from those who cannot give more.

Miss M. E. AHERN. — I should like to express thanks both to Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Crunden for the last statement. There are many of us whose financial burden is incommensurate with the respect and love we had for Dr. Poole. I speak for myself when I say that the amount of money which I felt I might contribute was such a small thing to offer that there was a shade of embarrassment. I am glad that this thing has been said publicly, and for my part I shall feel it a decided pleasure voluntarily to make this small contribution, and I want to answer for others who have expressed the same doubt and feelings with me.

J. N. WING. — As I understand it, the names of the contributors will be published, but not the amount of the contribution, so that those who give a dollar will go down on the same footing alphabetically, A. L. A. fashion, with those who give \$10 or \$15.

EXHIBITIONS OF ENGRAVINGS AND PICTURES.

C. A. CUTTER. — The last interesting paper was about sending books out to readers. I wish to say a few words about one means of getting the readers to come to the library. I wish simply to tell what I have done in the last six months or more in this way of exhibitions, in order to suggest to you ways in which you can hold exhibitions and to induce some of you to do likewise.

We have at the Forbes Library two large upper rooms which are admirably adapted for exhibitions, but I was not able to use them till at the annual meeting of the Appalachian Mountain Club, in Boston, I learned from Prof. Charles E. Fay that the Club owns a large collection of photographs of mountain scenery, taken by Antonio Sella, an Italian wool manufacturer, a man who is enthusiastic both as a mountain-climber and as a photographer. For the last 16 years he has spent his vacation of two months in carrying his camera high up on the Alps and the Caucasus and taking views of rocky and of snowy peaks, of glaciers, and all those features of great elevations that are

usually seen only by the robust climber. These have been printed and can be bought, though with some difficulty. The Appalachian Mountain Club, however, has procured a large part of them and now is ready to lend them to any institution which will exhibit them, the institution paying the cost of freight and of course the cost of exhibition, whatever it may be. Part of this expense may be recouped by the sale of a catalog which is furnished by the Club at the cost of printing. In our own case I think our expenses were about \$10 more than we received from the sale of catalogs. The exhibition has been given in various parts of the country and has been very successful. At Bridgeport, Ct., 20,000 persons went to see it. I kept no account of our visitors, but they were numerous and some of them came four or five times. I have never attended any exhibition which interested me more than this. It is not necessary to say much about the importance to a library of such exhibitions. Everything is of importance which makes the library the intellectual centre of the town; everything is of importance which brings people to the building and lets them see that there is a library and leads them to think of taking out books.

After this exhibition was over, Mr. Horace K. Turner, who is the travelling agent of the Soule Photograph Co. in Boston, asked to prepare an exhibition in our hall, he to bear all expenses and to take orders for his goods. I did not find the commercial element at all objectionable, and I would advise any libraries that have suitable halls to offer them to him. His exhibit was very popular.

One of our townspeople who had been interested in both of these exhibitions offered to exhibit with us for the public good the photographs, idols from temples, and other oriental curiosities which he had gathered during his residence in Siam, Japan, and India. This show also drew many to the library and interested those who were already in the habit of coming there. Would it not be well for a librarian in a town where there is no photographic society to found one in connection with the library? The American Photographic League sends round in a circuit from town to town the slides taken by members of its clubs, to be exhibited in the magic-lantern by the local clubs which receive them with explanations by the president of the club or any suitable person.

It occurs to me, too, that many of those who are going to Europe next year will probably have kodaks. Would it not be well for them to take photographs abroad with a special view to having them made into slides to form a nucleus for exhibitions in their libraries?

When the Massachusetts Library Club met at Northampton I prepared an exhibition of the photo-lithographs of the Arundell Society, plates from Bancroft's "Book of the Fair," and from Gérôme's works, and other similar art books. That furnished a very interesting exhibition. If we had not had these we might have taken engravings and photographs out of bound books with the intention of either keeping them loose to use for future exhibitions or fastening them back in the book afterwards.

To come to the practical part of the matter. In the first place you must have room. Many librarians will say that they have no room. One of my exhibitions I held in the reading-room. It made, of course, a little confusion, but it apparently did not trouble our people at all. A library can generally find some place for an exhibition, large or small, and it is worth while to use even an inconvenient place rather than not have any exhibition.

Then as to the means of fastening them up. Our walls are plastered, but there is a picture moulding. A small cord, fastened to the moulding, was carried down and tacked to the baseboard. Another cord was carried along horizontally and knotted at every juncture, and on that the pictures were hung by "bull-dog grips." The fault of this is that the cords sag unless the upright cords are close together.

Mr. Carr suggested an improvement: to hang wooden strips half an inch thick and an inch broad on the cords, which should pass through two holes in the slats. The mere friction of the cord on the holes will hold up the strips. Then you have something that is absolutely firm and even. But the cords lengthen in dry weather and contract in wet so much that I have lately suspended the slats by small brass chains. This has proved entirely satisfactory.

S. S. GREEN. — The Free Public Library in Worcester, Mass., has given exhibitions for a good many years, and when the great addition was made to its building, which we call the new building, as I was allowed to plan the interior of the building, especial arrangements were made for these exhibitions. As at present ar-

ranged, the whole upper story of the new building can be thrown into an art gallery, and in the story below there is a lecture-room, which can be used for small exhibitions.

In regard to mechanical contrivances, I think I can give you something even better than the two mentioned by Mr. Cutter. I have picture moulding around the tops of all the rooms. Going to a hardware-store I bought long brass chains with small links, had a great number of little hooks made of brass wire in an s shape, which will fit into the links; then I had long, thin slats made which set into the curves of the s of the hooks. The hooks can be placed far apart or near together, according to the height of your photograph or engraving, and everything seems to be firm. The pictures are attached to the slats by placing a clothes-pin, with a wire spring, at each corner. This is a very cheap and excellent way of hanging photographs and engravings.

I ought to say in beginning that Worcester is five or six times as large a place as Northampton, and that the arrangements that would be wanted in the latter place would often have to be changed with us. We spend \$11,000 a year for books and papers, and out of that amount I can easily take \$1000 to spend for collections of photographs, engravings, and fine illustrated books. We buy pictures in portfolios rather than bound. In the old building we had no suitable room, but I took what we know as the medical library room and put up the photographs and engravings in front of the book-shelves, as the doctors did not use the room so often as to make it inconvenient for exhibitions. But, as I say, in our new building we have suitable quarters. In the old building I began by exhibitions such as the following: Photographs bought of different European dealers that would illustrate the development of the genius of Raphael. Putting these around the room we showed people the principal works of that great artist, painted at several periods in his life. I will not multiply examples. We had, as would be implied from what I have said before, many exhibitions in the old building. In the new building we have had numerous exhibitions of various kinds. For example, we have shown a great work issued by the Russian Government illustrating the ecclesiastical, imperial, military, and domestic antiquities of the empire. The pictures are in color and sufficient in number to

go around the three large rooms which we have in two or three tiers. We put a card on a bulletin-board at the foot of stairs and near an elevator, stating what is being exhibited, notice the opening in the papers, and have reporters write about it. People become interested in it, and enjoy very much coming to it. We have had exhibitions of representations of tapestry and china, and of textile fabrics to be found in the South Kensington Museum. We have shown illustrations of the history of architecture and collections of photographs giving representations of modern French, English, and Spanish art. I give these examples as specimens. If you wish to know the exact works and collections which we have shown from year to year, you will find the titles of them in the annual reports of the library which were issued next after the exhibitions.

I wish to speak of two points which seem to me of great value if borne in mind in connection with these exhibitions. They have proved of great importance in connection with the school-work which we are doing. You know that Worcester was the pioneer in this school-work. Every day that the schools are open in cooler weather we have 2000 of our books in the school-rooms in use by teachers and scholars, and there is a regular wagon which goes once a fortnight to every school-building in the city, carrying such books as are wanted and bringing back those which are done with. I was interested recently to see a communication in *Public Libraries* which declared that children and others ought to be encouraged to go to libraries instead of having books carried to them. It is desirable that they should go to libraries, but it is also desirable that books should be carried to school-rooms. Use 2000 books a day in the school-rooms, and also have an extra session of the schools every afternoon in the library. In doing work in connection with schools how do pictures come in? We put on the walls of a hall 100 photographs taken from battlefields, some even before the dead were removed, and from buildings, bridges, and other objects made memorable by incidents in the war, after the children in the grammar schools have done studying about the civil war and while their memories are filled with the names of places and engagements. We place beside them the extensive work of Forbes illustrating camp life in the late war, and a set of Confederate etchings, and invite

the heads of the different grammar schools to invite the children to come to see the pictures. Fifty or so come in an afternoon. We keep the exhibition open a week, a fortnight, or such other period of time as is necessary to give all the children a chance for a good view. Their memories are full of the names which are on the pictures, and they get more definite ideas of occurrences by means of the pictures. When the scholars in the high schools have done studying about Shakespeare, we invite them to come to the library and display there on the walls that great work, "The homes and haunts of Shakespeare," which undertakes to give objects which Shakespeare's eyes rested on while his genius was developing, in reproductions from water-color drawings and in black and white. At the same time we get together fac-similes of the quartos and folios and books illustrating architecture and costumes of the time of Shakespeare. The teachers of English literature come to the exhibition, bringing manageable squads from time to time, and together they get whatever enjoyment and profit the illustrations may afford. When engaged in studying the works of Addison and the *Spectator*, we invite teachers and scholars to come to the library to see books which illustrate London at the time of these writings, and enable them to get a more intelligent view of the time when the *Spectator* was written, and of the buildings and life in London at that time. So much for usefulness of exhibitions in connection with the school-work. Another important point is in regard to exhibitions in towns where there are art societies. Join with such societies in doing this work. When the new library building was put up in Worcester, instead of having dedicatory exercises (I at that time was president of the Art Society, and both that Society and the Library wanted to do good work for the benefit of citizens), the Art Society spent three hundred dollars in collecting all the portraits that could be found in our houses and arranged them by families, nearly covering the walls of the entire upper story of our building. It also put rugs on the floors and tapestry on the walls. Since then we have had a great exhibition of china, the Art Society spending three or four hundred dollars in collecting everything in our houses and seeing that loans were carefully returned.

We have just had a continuous exhibition of

four months, in which the Art Society and our own Library united. The Art Society spent about seven hundred dollars in getting up and maintaining this exhibition. It procured oil-paintings from houses in Worcester, and also sent to Boston to get others. It made changes in the exhibition twice during the four months, taking down 20 or more pictures and putting up 20 fresh ones on two different occasions. The exhibition was also one of bric-à-brac, which was lent to the Society. The Library filled up one room with very large photographs of cathedrals. They were procured of Mr. Hagger, of New York, and give you a real idea of the immensity of the buildings. We are now buying photographs of town-halls and other public buildings of the same large size in Europe. When the second change in oil-paintings was made by the Art Society, I put those photographs in another room to accommodate persons who still wished to see them. In the room first used for the cathedrals we put up representations of Michael Angelo's frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, 125 photographs giving the details of the ceiling, which can be had of Braun in Paris, and a representation of the whole ceiling in one picture procured in Rome.

We have skylights under which photographs can be taken, and a dark closet for developing photographs. Some of our teachers teach geography by means of slides, and when we get a book illustrating a country of which they have not good illustrations in slides already owned by them, they take photographs from the pictures in the book and use those in the instruction of the children in school.

Recess at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order again at 10:35 a.m., C. C. Soule in the chair, as a

JOINT MEETING OF THE A. L. A. AND THE TRUSTEES' SECTION.

C. C. SOULE. — Fellow-trustees and fellow-librarians: We are all fellows in one good cause. Since the early years of the American Library Association it has been a common thing for trustees to attend the sessions. No attempt, as I remember, was made to insure a special attendance till the 1890 conference at Fabyan's. At that time a special circular was sent out and a special session was devoted to trustees. Three papers were read, one by a librarian and two by trustees. These papers

were not only published in the conference proceedings but were published in a separate pamphlet, which you have probably seen, and as a result an organization was effected called the Trustees' Section. A very practical result of this action followed in the shape of the establishment of an Endowment Fund of about \$5000. It was intended to raise \$10,000, but unfortunately business difficulties intervened, and Mr. Hovey, who had charge of the collection, concluded that it was unwise at that time to push it farther. The fund has now accumulated to over \$6000. The income is used for the benefit of the Publishing Section. Consequently, the organization of that Trustees' Section not only marked progress in the relation of trustees and librarians, but marked a very important step in the progress of the Association. The only meeting of the Section since that time that I know of was held at Lakewood, which simply resulted in the election of new officers. This year the executive committee have made a special effort to get an attendance of trustees, and at their suggestion I also sent out for the Trustees' Section an urgent letter asking trustees to attend. Trustees are very busy men and it has been almost impossible to stir many of them up, but there is a very gratifying attendance, and I have in my hand a bunch of letters from all parts of the country evincing great interest in the organized work of this Association. I think that the attendance here of trustees is typical of a very large reawakening and an increasing interest on the part of trustees all over the United States.

In opening this joint session I want to take a little more joyous and hopeful tone than the President of the Association took yesterday morning. His motive was good in calling our attention to the dark side of library administration, but the effect on me was rather one of discouragement, and on the part of trustees, who are business men, I want to remind you that no man ever goes into good work with much encouragement or gets much satisfaction in the result. I think all those of you who have been engaged in church work, or social or political reform, will bear me out in saying that the men you meet are discouraging and results are generally unsatisfactory. If you will go into a common council meeting, or into a legislative meeting, or into Congress, and listen to the discussions, you will wonder how democratic

America lives. It is just the same way with our library movement. When we watch what is done in our library, and in our bodies of trustees, when we see slow and incompetent librarians, when we try to stir up teachers of the schools to an interest in educational work, and we find that we have to lift them bodily, we cannot help being discouraged. But when we come to this meeting and meet other people who have the same purpose, we ought to have a feeling of inspiration and hope rather than that of regret and disappointment. We ought to bear in mind that no man or woman can devote all his life to a good cause without the world being better for it, whether he sees results or not. That is the message the trustees bring to you librarians here.

The executive committee of the Association have asked our friend and former president, Mr. Crunden, of St. Louis, to open the session with a paper.

THE FUNCTIONS OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES AND THEIR RELATIONS TO LIBRARIANS.

(See p. 32.)

C. C. SOULE. — To start the discussion I will briefly comment myself on Mr. Crunden's paper. One point I wish to make is that he shares my joyous hope in one particular in calling attention to the fact that very few scandals attend library administration in this country. I differ from Mr. Crunden materially in the same point in which I differed from Mr. Green in 1890, and that is as to whether the librarian should be made the secretary of the board and be present at all its meetings. Fortunately, Mr. Crunden has proved that I am right in his paper. He has given points on which the trustees may properly discuss and exercise their authority. Of those points, only one or two require the presence of the librarian. One point requires his absence, and that is the discussion and criticism of the librarian's conduct. He says there are times when all librarians are not efficient and when the board must consider the question as to whether or not they must dismiss the librarian. At the same time an opportunity should be allowed for discussion of that fact. Many of the complaints against the librarian which come up can be checked and answered at once by a free and informal discussion of the trustees. I think the rule which we follow in Brookline is the best

rule, because it fills the actual purpose of having the librarian present. We simply go on with our records, and bring up financial matters and matters that do not require the presence of the librarian. Then we send for the librarian and take him in very freely on any point where his advice is required. He is present at committee meetings and board meetings, with the exception of the beginning of the meeting, which is an executive session. We find that the position of secretary of the board of trustees affords agreeable occupation for one of our members who otherwise might be idle. It seems to me that our habit in Brookline is one that boards generally had better follow. I agree with almost all that Mr. Crunden advances in his paper. I want to emphasize one point, and that is that trustees should inform themselves in regard to the details of library administration, not so far that they wish to become librarian themselves, but that they may be competent critics of the librarian's action.

B. F. WRIGHT. — I rise, not for the purpose of making a speech, but I simply want to emphasize the last point made by our president. The paper seems to be on both sides for that matter. It seems to me that the library trustee should inform himself upon all matters of detail with reference to the library, the conduct of the library, new methods of management, and all other details, and that we can never have the best in this regard till we have educated trustees. I do not mean to say that they shall interfere. There is attention to detail which does not savor of interference.

I want to congratulate myself on being present at this meeting of the Library Association. I feel that it is good for me to be here, and I believe that the libraries of this country could have no better thing found for them than if we in this Association could have from every library board in the country an accredited delegate at each of our sessions.

J. K. HOSMER. — I feel as if it were not inappropriate for me to occupy a few minutes, owing to the circumstance that I am the connecting-link of library administration. I exhibit myself as a specimen in natural history. I am the connecting-link between the trustee and librarian. For a number of years I was one of the spokes of that cumbrous and awkward machine which Mr. Crunden stigmatizes at the opening of his paper. To describe the process of my

evolution in the terms of natural history: as a grub, I was a trustee; I spun about myself a cocoon and merged at length into the beautiful librarian. Our chairman still remains in the grub condition. As Charles Lamb put it once when he attempted to quote David Crockett, "He is the same old coo-coon." I am Mr. Crunden's bibliographical child. I am very much like Mr. Crunden, and find that my thoughts, my ideas and conceptions of library management run in Mr. Crunden's groove. I follow the impulse which he gave me. It was he that gave me the training and the desire to become what I have become as a librarian. There is only one point upon which it seems to me he might well have touched, and that is the value of having upon a board of trustees some good women. I have no women on my board at Minneapolis. We had women upon the board in St. Louis, and they were always among the most efficient and useful members of the board. For a number of years, till her lamented death, a member of the St. Louis board of trustees was Mrs. Noble, the wife of General Harrison's secretary of the interior. At the time of my connection with Mr. Crunden's board there were upon the board two of the strongest women in the city, both of them teachers, one of them the principal of one of the chief schools, and their service was most excellent. It was excellent in this point: It seems to me that there was a superior faithfulness in the women members; we could always count upon them for being present. In my board at Minneapolis we are plagued to death often to get a quorum. When the month comes around we have to run our legs off to get a quorum, and I tell the Minneapolis public and my trustees that if we only had two or three good women on the board we should be helped in that respect.

J. W. THOMPSON. — I want simply to express my hearty appreciation of the admirable paper of Mr. Crunden. The gentleman who has been honored as a trustee and the other as a connecting-link have stated some things that I purposed saying. One thing that I should want to emphasize was the one just said a moment ago with reference to having women on the board of trustees. I heartily believe in it. We are so fortunate in Evanston as to have very many ladies who are eminently qualified for such a position, much better, I think, than any of the gentlemen who occupy or hold the position of trustee. I

hope soon to see that change inaugurated in the organization or make-up of our board in Evanston.

We have one thing in Evanston that has not been spoken of by any one here that affects our management or direction of the employees in the library. That is, we have the civil service law, and all employees in the library, from the librarian down to the janitor, hold positions on merit and cannot be removed by the trustees only on their recommendation to the civil service commission, and the recommendation accompanied by a plain statement of the cause for removal. The civil service commission act in perfect harmony with and are guided in all their actions with reference to the public library by the recommendations of the board of trustees. When vacancies occur in the staff of the library, requisition is made upon the civil service commission for a person to fill the position. The person standing highest on the list is recommended as a person to fill that position. When vacancies occur—none have occurred yet, but probably will soon in our library—the promotion is made on merit. The library board is not troubled about that. Neither is the librarian, so far as he is involved in the direct management of promotion.

Another thing that this relieves the board of trustees of is applications for positions on the library staff. It relieves entirely the political pressure. There can be no politics. There never has been any in our board, and there can be none under this system.

The gentleman who preceded me spoke about difficulty in securing a quorum. One year, at the organization of our board, I said to the members of the board, "Now, if you want to hold your positions on this board of trustees, if I have any influence, and I think I have, with the present administration, it will be necessary for you to show a respectable interest at least in attendance upon the meetings of our board of trustees." I emphasized it, and I said to our librarian, "I wish you would keep a little tab on that; not only on that, but also a little tab on the number of times the directors come into the library when there is not any meeting. I want to know something about that." I am happy to be able to state to you that of a board consisting of nine directors the average attendance at our meetings last year was a little over seven. The secretary of our board was sick

for five months and another member was absent on account of sickness, so that we would almost have had an average of eight had it not been for sickness. The enthusiasm never was so great. The interest in the work was never anything that can be compared with what it was last year. I said to the chairmen of the various committees, and also to the board as a whole, "If any committee on this board fail to perform the duties belonging to that committee I shall not hesitate to speak of it in open board meeting,"

I heartily endorse what has been said regarding the hearty co-operation of the board in the work of the librarian. In our board we work as one. Our board does not have the librarian as the secretary, but in all matters pertaining to the executive part or the province of the librarian, the librarian is always consulted outside of the board meeting or in the board meeting, and is always asked for an opinion, and that opinion in nine cases out of ten has prevailed, and in some cases where there have been modifications it has been, after mutual consultation, unanimously decided that it was better than the recommendation; so that I am glad to say that this spirit prevails, to have it announced positively as was done in the paper, and that I am able to give this testimony, that so far as our library board is concerned it is the policy of our board.

One word is due from me to members of the A. L. A. It is the first time I have ever been permitted to enjoy a session of the American Library Association, and when I look in the face of some of these gentlemen here and listen to their inspiring words, I think of some of the articles I have read from their pens and of the first inspiration I received with reference to library work. It was penned by your highly esteemed collaborer, Mr. Fletcher. It thrilled me. It seemed to open up the whole field of library work. It came home to me as a director, and I must say that it was the first impulse toward a desire for a more extended knowledge of library work and a better information respecting all that is involved, not only in the directorship but in the field of the librarian. Others I might mention here, and I have enjoyed all of these remarks and all of these papers, and I hope that the time may come when, as has been already said, these meetings may have in them more largely a repre-

sentation of the trustees, and that there may grow this spirit of mutual co-operation.

RUTHERFORD P. HAYES. — I am very glad to see that Mr. Crunden has toned down a little bit. At the Library Association in 1887 or 1889 that I attended he was very severe on the trustees, and specially on the trustees of endowed libraries where the trustees were trustees for life. I am in that position. I am a trustee of a library in a small town where, although I have not lived in the city for two years, I hold on to the place, have not attended a meeting for two years, and am going to occupy the place the rest of my life if I can. Our board was appointed by the donor of the library, and I filled the first vacancy that was made by resignation. In the 16 years that I have been on the board we have had the same librarian, and our library I think has got along well, because we had a good librarian. We have two trustee meetings in a year, one on the 1st of May and one on the 1st of June. At our meeting in May we elect our librarian and the year begins for the librarian on the 1st of June. At that time we have the reports of the officers of the board. I think our library has done good work, although it is not quite up to the standard of what the trustees should do and are doing in other places. I found it was difficult to get a quorum even at those two meetings, so when last winter, in connection with the trustees of another library, we endeavored to make a change in the government of the state library in Ohio, it was thought best to put the very lowest number of commissioners possible. We have three, and up to this time I have been the only one that was absent from the meetings. That was excusable last Saturday, when I was on my way here. One of the changes we made was in our state library where the librarian was appointed for two years, appointed by the governor, and with every change of governor the librarian was changed. Since an unfortunate experiment that Ohio made just before 1860, in which in three years she spent \$280,000 for books that were distributed to the public schools throughout the state, the state library has been considered merely as a necessary evil. They have appropriated as little money as possible and have done almost nothing for it, and to-day we have a collection of books numbering from 40,000 to 60,000, though nobody knows how many, having no catalog. We are going to work. We

are studying on the plan of the travelling libraries to see what we can do when we get in a little better condition and what we can do to arouse an interest in library work throughout the state, and I think with help from our friends outside the state, and the enthusiasm that we hope to have in the state, we will have some library awakening here within the next year or so.

LANA H. COPE. — I agree with the gentleman who just sat down that the trustees are improving. We all realize and recognize this. I occupy the place of one of the trustees and librarian at the same time. By virtue of my office, the law says, the librarian shall be one of the trustees. The trustees of Iowa are composed of the supreme judges, six of them, with the state executive council. The supreme judges are scattered all over the state, but we have no trouble in getting a meeting. It always occurs at the time of the session of the supreme court. I act as secretary, and we are always in accord and we are doing a great work.

Hon. JAMES A. GARFIELD. — Mentor is a village of but 500 people, therefore we are somewhat limited in our ability to raise funds for carrying on library work. But some six years ago 15 of us got together and began holding a series of meetings every month, something in the nature of the old New England township meeting, for the purpose of stirring up an interest in town affairs, and in doing that we considered it necessary to have some central point of interest around which we could all work, and we chose as that the library. There had never been a library in the village except a small circulating library. We all believed that the use of books and the greater knowledge of books would be a common centre of interest around which we could all work and toward which we would be glad to give work. The result of five years' work in this way was that we now have a library of about 1600 volumes, and two years ago, acting under a general law of the state, we became incorporated, and requested the village council to levy a tax for the support of the library. We at that time had about 1000 volumes. The council very readily saw the advantage of this kind of work. They appreciated what was being done for the citizens and schools of the state, and therefore they levied a tax and turned the proceeds of the tax over to the library board. In this way, you will see, the library board is kept entirely aloof from

politics. There are no elections by the people, nor is the board appointed by any political officers. It is a self-constituted body, a corporate body under the laws of this state, and as long as we maintain our corporate existence the village may turn over the funds to the library. We settled this difficulty of women's rights by having an equal number of both men and women on the board, and then in order to avoid the question of disruption of families we made the other member of the family who was not on an honorary member of the board. In this way we increased the number of workers and at the same time satisfied the desire of many people to hold office.

I heartily agree with what has been said relative to the number of trustees. We found that 15, together with the supernumerary and honorary members, were unwieldy, and the work practically devolved upon very few of the members. Therefore, when we incorporated we made an executive board consisting of five members, and they had absolute management of the library proper. They are elected every year from the members of the association, the 15 and these others, and they have absolute control of the library. In this way we have found it very easy to accomplish the work we have set out to do.

I have stated this result of our work to show what can be done. I believe that one of the best and easiest methods of education is through the library, that we reach all classes, all ages, and all kinds of people, and by making the library an adjunct of the public-school system we add materially to the advantages that may be offered to the pupils. Although our library is supported by the village, we make it absolutely free to any one who desires to use it. Those outside the village or township are required to put up a nominal deposit merely for the safe return of the book. We made this the ideal towards which we are working — that the friendship of books is like the friendship of men; it is worth nothing and avails nothing unless it is used constantly and improved constantly.

Mrs. H. M. WEEKS. — I am glad to find that all the trustees are not busy men. It has been said every time it has been mentioned that they were busy men, and as I am a trustee on the library board in our village, I began to wonder if I were entirely alone.

I want to second what the men have said that

having women on the board is a very good thing, and I am glad the men trustees see that. I think one good reason why women should be on the board is that very often they can give more time to the work than the business men can give, and there is a class of work that women on the board can do that men can hardly be expected to do. When I went on our village board the house committee fell to me, and I had a sharp eye for the janitor and saw that the windows were shaded and the rooms kept in better order, and first one thing and then another fell to me, till I rather regard myself as one of the village constables. I hope we shall have more women library trustees than we seem to have now.

TESSA L. KELSO. — A lady wrote me the other day to ask if I did not think that there might be a case where it was a bad thing to have too many women. She cited her case. She is in one of the largest cities of the Union. Her library numbers only 360 volumes and she has 60 lady trustees. I think that is a record unequalled in the country, and she has come to the conclusion that there is such a thing as having too many women. I think the sympathies of the Association are due to any woman who has 60 women trustees to administer 360 volumes.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — It simply shows another illustration that you can have too much of a good thing.

R. G. THWAITES. — I merely wish to duplicate Miss Kelso's experience. I belong to a board of trustees of which there are 62 members, all men. We meet once a year against Mr. Hayes's twice a year, and we are a very unanimous body indeed.

TESSA L. KELSO. — These ladies meet once a week. [*Laughter.*]

MEMBER. — While I have been a librarian I have seen the advantages of having ladies on the board of trustees. At present with a board of 15 members one-third of them are ladies, and they are faithful friends of library work. We also experience the disadvantage of having so large a membership in the trustees, but they have obviated that difficulty by having an executive committee who do all the work, and I can say that the library is constantly improving and is becoming a power in the village, which 25 years ago cared very little for books.

WILLIAM JOHNSON. — Our city is about to

erect a new building. We have available a fund of \$350,000, and it has been our object to visit other institutions so that we can get good hints. I endorse most heartily some of the statements made by Mr. Crunden. I am very glad that our board enabled me to be present with you in the instructive meetings we have had here during this session.

GEO. A. MACBETH (trustee of Carnegie Library, Pittsburg). — The librarian is the head and the trustee the right hand of the library. The selection of books requires a peculiar judgment of your reading public. The board of trustees as men of judgment have a proper function to perform in the adaptation of matters. They are the connecting link between the librarian and the public. It is one thing to know how to select books and another to know how to bend your public. You cannot make a librarian by rote nor a trustee. It falls to the librarian to do all the work and make the library what it is to be. The busier the man the better the trustee he makes. The librarian is in the stream of knowledge of demand. He cannot be both hand and head, and ought to be the head.

Mr. CRUNDEN read the following letter :

SAINT LOUIS, Aug. 31, 1896.

DEAR MR. CRUNDEN: Even after I wrote you that I would be unable to attend the conference, it seemed that I could arrange it and be with you after all. Circumstances, however, arose calling me home last week instead of this as intended, and here I am and must forego the pleasure of being present again this year.

Have read your paper with interest and return it by this post. I do not think of anything to add which will make it more effectual. There are some things which I would like to have said, could I have been present at the trustees' meeting, regarding the American Library Association. I do not think its value is sufficiently well known by the average library trustee, and therefore the benefit to be derived from it is greatly lessened. It does not seem possible for one to accept the position of director of a library and assume conscientiously its duties without a full appreciation of the great importance of the influence of the public library upon the community in which he lives. Second it seems to me only to the church and Sunday-school. A most potent factor for the advance-

ment of culture and intelligence of the masses, and therefore directly instrumental in the preservation of the church, the home, and the state — the foundation of all national prosperity.

With the full appreciation of the importance of the duty assumed, every adjunct which will assist in furthering this interest should be brought into use. The A. L. A. is certainly entitled to unlimited credit for what it has done in influencing public opinion in regard to libraries and library work, and shaping and educating this opinion so as to make it practical and effective. Having had much experience with national commercial organizations, officially and executive, I must say that in my opinion the annual report of no other organization impresses me with more force than that of the A. L. A.

It is a matter of astonishment to one who has seen time and money wasted in other directions, to see how painstaking, practical, far-reaching, and effective has been the result of these annual conferences.

Where would library work be to-day were it not for this very effectual labor on the part of comparatively few devoted individuals? Therefore,

First, I would urge upon every library manager or director everywhere to become a member of this Association, and thus contribute in a small way to its support and continued influence, as well as to being himself or herself in close touch with the work he has assumed in its latest practical detail.

Second, every library in the country should be represented at these annual gatherings by its librarian or assistant, not at his or her expense, but sent regularly by the board as a legitimate and necessary addition to the cost of their administration. I care not whether it be a large or small sum required, it will be the best outlay in practical results of the whole year. It will pay, and as we say commercially, "it is business." What is worth doing at all, is worth doing well. Better that the book fund should suffer to this extent that the work that is done may be done in the most effective manner.

At a recent conference it was a matter of astonishment to me that only a very small minority of librarians present were sent there by their respective boards, while the majority attending were doing so at their own expense,

and doubtless, in many instances, at great personal sacrifice.

In this progressive age the very *best* is demanded. This can only be obtained through organization and co-operation. Let us as library trustees see to it that we are not behind in applying the same business sense and judgment to this work that we have to exercise in the ordinary pursuits of life.

These are some of the thoughts which force themselves upon my mind in connection with the trustees' meeting. If you can make any use of them shall be glad to have you do so.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

O. L. WHITELAW.

Letters of regret at not being able to attend the Conference were received from Seth Low, President of Columbia University; John Bigelow, Trustee of the New York Consolidated Libraries; Gen. Francis A. Walker, Pres. Institute of Technology and Trustee of P. L., Boston; Hon. Wm. T. Harris, Commissioner of Education; Rev. James De Normandie, Trustee Boston P. L., and others. Gen. Walker wrote, "It would have given me very great pleasure to attend the meeting had it been possible. I will not say I trust it will be a profitable Conference, I know it must be." Mr. De Normandie wrote, "I think our Library should be represented, and I wish I could go, but my engagements for September cannot now be changed so as to give me the opportunity. . . . I am surprised to learn that we have not been represented at every session, and trust we may be hereafter."

F. P. HILL. — I do not wish to take exception to much that has been said in Mr. Crunden's excellent paper, but I hope he can modify the statement made to the effect that the salaries of members of the staff are reduced whenever expenses have to be curtailed. It has been my experience that the book fund suffers rather than the fund provided for the maintenance of the full staff on full salary.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I beg to correct Mr. Hill. I made no such statement. I said it was not evidence of good administrative ability to do it.

F. P. HILL. — I desire to offer the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That this joint meeting recom-

mend to the American Library Association the publication and distribution, among trustees especially, of Mr. Crunden's paper on the relation of trustees to public libraries."

W. R. EASTMAN. — It seems to me that it would be very valuable if we could have reliable statistics through the ordinary channels from all the states respecting the libraries, as to the number of trustees, the manner of appointment and term or continuity of office.

W. C. LANE. — I move to amend Mr. Hill's resolution by including an abstract of the discussion and letters.

Accepted by Mr. Hill and *voted*.

C. C. SOULE. — This meeting is an illustration of what I said in my opening remarks, that you must not yield to discouragement. Mr. Dana has done a good deal of the work to get the trustees together.

When I got on the train a lady said to me, "Mr. Soule, I want to give you an illustration of the indirect good results of your effort to get the trustees together, by saying that I should not have been present at this conference if it had not been for your circular to the trustees." She said, "I forwarded your letter to my trustees, and they said to me that they could not go, and asked, 'Are not you going?' I said no, I could not afford to go. They said, 'Wouldn't you go if we paid your expenses?' I said 'Certainly.'" The trustees sent her here at the expense of the library. That is a result of the indirect effect of active work. You see what a success this conference has been, what harmony there has been between trustees and librarians present. I hope the Trustees' Section will do more active work in the future and that all will take part in the future success of this Association.

Recess at 12:25 p.m.

FIFTH SESSION.

(THURSDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 3.)

Called to order by the president at 2:55.

S. H. BERRY introduced the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Executive Board be requested to appoint a committee on gifts and bequests, to consist of one person from each state, to report to the chairman of that committee." *Voted*.

INVITATION FROM THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT
OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Miss M. E. AHERN. — I am authorized by the executive board of the library department of the National Educational Association to present the following communication:

At a meeting of the library department of the National Educational Association in Buffalo July 9, 1896, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That a cordial invitation be extended to the American Library Association and to all state library associations and clubs to cooperate in the work of this department, and to that end that delegates from those associations be invited to attend and participate in the meetings of the department of library work in the National Educational Association."

S. S. GREEN. — I move that the invitation of the library department of the National Educational Association be accepted and that the executive committee appoint five or more delegates to attend the meetings of that section.

I move also that the executive committee appoint a committee of five which shall do any work that they may think would afford the means of collecting information that would be useful to place before our own body and that section. *Voted.*

CANDLESTICK FOR THE ROWFANT CLUB.

Miss T. L. KELSO. — I move that the American Library Association request the executive board to procure and present to the Rowfant Club an A. L. A. candlestick to add to their collection. *Voted.*

Miss L. E. STEARNS then read a paper on

ADVERTISING A LIBRARY.

(*See p. 37.*)

Owing to the absence of C. R. Dudley, the paper on

LIBRARY EDITIONS OF POPULAR FICTION, which was down on the program to be presented by him, was not read.

(*See p. 41.*)

W. I. FLETCHER. — I move that the executive board appoint a committee of three to make an investigation and report to the Association at our next meeting some plan, if possible, to be presented to publishers with the hope of inducing them to print special editions of popular

works for libraries on better paper and in good strong binding.

F. A. HUTCHINS. — I am very glad to speak on this subject, because I think it is a very important one which has been greatly neglected, and I wish to speak from the standpoint of the small libraries, meaning by small libraries those in isolated hamlets, and from the standpoint of the school libraries. It has been my fortune within the last few years to visit a great many school libraries in isolated farming neighborhoods. It has been very difficult in those neighborhoods to awaken people to know fully the value of good books and of school libraries, and I have found that the interest in school libraries has been very frequently weakened, and by causes that do not lie within the books themselves. For instance, I have gone very frequently to a country neighborhood and have found an argument against the purchase of books that the books tumbled to pieces so soon. "They fall to pieces; what is the use of getting them?" they say. For instance, in Wisconsin the books for our school libraries have been furnished under contract for a time by McClurg, by Maxwell, and others. They do not distinguish between the publishers and the wholesalers. They say, "We buy some of the books of McClurg and his books fall to pieces." This discouragement injures the teachers and is a drawback on their work in trying to get good books. In the small libraries, too, where they do not know how to select editions carefully, they buy frequently from the bargain-counters. The books tumble to pieces and they do not know how to get them rebound. In your large libraries you have a system, and when a book begins to fall to pieces you have it sent to the binder. But here is a man 40, 50, or 60 miles from a binder. He does not know where there is a binder. When the books begin to fall to pieces that is the last of them, and it is discouraging. I have had a little experience with the publishers in this line, and I have said to some of them, "We should be very glad to put your books on the lists of books in the Wisconsin libraries, but they fall to pieces and we cannot afford to. Now, if you bind your books better we will put them on the lists, and we will not otherwise." We have been successful with some publishers and with others we have not. As an example of the work that we have done I wish to show you a copy of this

edition of "Birds' Christmas carol." You will see that it is bound in brown linen. It has upon its front cover the same design that is used in the ordinary edition. We put for one or two years the ordinary edition of "Birds' Christmas carol" on our list. I found on going to the libraries that they were defaced, the corners were split up, and they were filthy. I found that the children, when they were allowed to handle books that were so filthy, were demoralized by it, and they lost their respect for a book by being allowed to handle filthy books. This is of course one of the best books that we have on our list and we disliked to lose it, and I explained to an agent the difficulty that we had. He said, "I do not know that we are ready yet to publish an edition for the trade in a better form, but if you will tell us how many you want we will bind for you a special edition and your contractor may keep them on sale." They have furnished for the last three or four years this edition to us in all parts of the state, to the school and to the other libraries. The Milwaukee library people, who had, I think, somewhere near 40 or 50 volumes of this Carol in the school libraries, buy from the same contractor and use them. I also wrote to Houghton, Mifflin & Co. about "Betty Lester." It seems to me that for its purpose in a certain class it is one of the best books (if not the best) published. But as I visited the libraries of the state, and the school libraries specially, it made me heartsick to see that beautiful, dainty, charming book covered with filth and finger-marks. I wrote to the house in regard to it, but have not yet been able to get them to put it in better binding. I think this Association ought to be able to induce Houghton, Mifflin & Co. to put that book in such a binding that it would be useful and well kept upon your shelves.

We brought another means to bear to interest the publishers in this matter of putting out better editions. We found certain books that we did not feel justified in dropping from the list. There are some teachers in the state who have their books kept very nicely indeed, some who are willing and take pains with such books to cover them, although they ought not to be covered generally. But we gave a word of advice to them and stated that the book was daintily bound, and that people who could not take a good deal of pains with it had better not buy it,

and I am confident that the publishers read that note. I marked a copy and sent it to them. For instance, "Children of the poor," as you know, is made on heavy paper; it is very poor paper and tears to pieces easily, and is a book which in most of the schools is broken in two after it has been read once or twice. With that book we added a note stating the fact that unless they could take good care of it they had better not buy it at all. It seems to me that if in that admirable list of books something of this kind could be done, if a word of caution could be put in in regard to certain editions, the publishers with their publishers' instinct would be more likely to try to make better editions; and if the American Library Association could as a whole join with the school libraries to draw the attention of publishers to their poor editions, it seems to me that it would be of value. Lists of recommended books are published by the state departments of North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Maryland, and some other states, and also by the state department of New York. These recommendations are the means of selling hundreds of books for the publishers, and if this committee which is to be appointed could make an alliance with the school libraries it seems to me that they could secure these better editions for us.

As another instance of what we have been able to do, many of you remember that when the Riverside Library Literature series were first put up in the double and triple numbers they were put up in pasteboard. We found the same difficulty that we found with "Birds' Christmas carol." We brought the matter to the attention of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., and were instrumental in the way of having the change made in the binding of that series.

W. I. FLETCHER.—I would like to say a word about a certain movement in that direction which some of you may remember. I am sure it is over a year ago that I had it published in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. I obtained the facts from Mr. Jones at Salem, and published with comments of my own stating that there were certain books that came to rebinding after having been circulated for some time. Certain ones had stood it 50 times or more, and others 20 times. Attention was called to the fact that those which stood it the best were published by certain publishers. I wish that this effort might be carried forward. At that time I expressed a

wish that other librarians would send in lists which they could make when they sent books to be rebound, simply making a memorandum of how many times the charging slip shows that book to have been out and who the publisher is. On talking over the matter with Mr. Mifflin he said that he for one would be very glad to see such a list published. I told him what was the fact, that in the honor list I had to include the name of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. I wish that we might have a more extended statement of that kind and be able to name about a dozen publishers in the order of durability of their books. It would not perhaps be an absolutely correct indication, and it should be made plain that it was not intended to be.

A. W. WHELPLEY. — This subject might be carried along farther to great advantage. There are commissions for pure food, there are commissions to distinguish between butter and oleomargarine; why should there not be one to show what a crime it is to publish and print books as nearly half the American publishers do? In the first place, some of the publishers use their stereotype plates till you can scarcely discern the print, and they ask the same price that they did when the plates were new. Then they print on paper which if you look at it will disintegrate, and the binding — well, the least said about it the better. These men know that that is wrong. The books of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Appleton, and Scribner always wear well. They make better books and generally charge more than those who give poorer material.

A. L. PECK. — Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have published lately a new Riverside School Library, and were so courteous as to send me a copy of "Ivanhoe." I wrote to them and said, "Gentlemen, I only wish that we could have more such works well printed on good paper and well bound." By return mail I received the following: "Will you be so kind as to name all the popular books on our list which you would desire to have printed on better paper and bound in the same style as our new Riverside School Library?" So you see from this that the publishers are willing to give us what we ask for — books printed on good paper, in a readable type, and well bound. I do believe that good will result from this gathering and that other publishers will follow the example of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Let us get better editions and more durable binding for our best and most wholesome

literature. I do not get reprints of Miss Holmes's novels because I do not wish to increase the sale of them.

W. R. EASTMAN. — If our committee is to do good service to the small libraries I wish they would make a clear utterance in regard to the extravagance of buying cheap books. The dry-goods trade is advertising very largely about making prices for libraries. They are selling books printed on the poorest paper, in binding that is good enough perhaps, but the whole appearance of the book is cheap, and many of our library trustees feel that they can make their money go a good deal farther by buying these books than by getting good editions. We have this continually coming up in Albany on the part of the small libraries, who have but a little money and want to make it go a great ways. They can hardly be persuaded that it is not good policy to fill their shelves with those cheap and shabby books. I think one clear, ringing utterance from such a committee as is contemplated now would mark the opinion of this Association and have great weight with such libraries.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — A good deal of this rests with the librarian. We refuse to buy poor editions, and send them back to the bookseller and demand certain editions that we know are printed at least on tolerably good paper and in good type. The binding is bad in all cases.

Miss ELLEN M. CHANDLER next read a paper entitled

"DO": ADVICE BASED ON EXPERIENCE.

(See p. 43.)

Mr. W. I. FLETCHER took the chair and arranged for a symposium on various subjects.

Questions concerning

LIBRARY FURNITURE, FIXTURES, AND APPLIANCES

were answered by Mr. C. A. CUTTER.

Pres. DANA. — Can you describe your system of charging?

C. A. CUTTER. — In registration we give to the borrower instead of a library card a library pocket. In charging, the book-card (which bears the number, the author's name, and the title and the classification mark of the book, and is always kept in a pocket at the end of the book when the book is in the library) is taken out from the book pocket and put in the borrower's pocket, which is kept at the desk as a

sort of receipt for the book. The book itself goes out. The borrower's pocket bears the registration number of the borrower, his name and address, so that in case one has to send for the book one has the address before one. The pocket at the end of the book is stamped with the date when the book is to be returned, so that the borrower has not the excuse of having forgotten when his book was due. These borrower's pockets are filed away day by day; when the book is returned the clerk, seeing this date on the pocket of the book, looks up the borrower's pocket in the package for that date and returns the book-card to the book and the pocket to the borrower. In a very large city it would be well that the borrower should keep his pocket to serve as his identification card. In a small place like Northampton, to save our borrowers the trouble of carrying all those pockets, we keep them at the library desk in registration order.

G. W. COLE. — How is a borrower's pocket better than the usual borrower's card?

C. A. CUTTER. — I do not know that it is better in itself. I chose it because I intended to use my book-card, whose merits I knew from experience, and the pocket offered a cheap and convenient place to keep the book-card in while the book is out. The pocket can do all that the card does and this besides.

Question. — What is the disposition made of these pockets containing book-slips between the time of charging the book and the time of filing the slips?

C. A. CUTTER. — The pockets are put in a tin box, divided into ten unequal compartments, one for each group of the classification. This makes the count of circulation easy.

Question. — Do you ever have any trouble with the cards falling out?

C. A. CUTTER. — No. The pocket is sufficiently tight to keep the cards in.

Question. — What do people have to show that they are entitled to books?

C. A. CUTTER. — The pocket if they keep it, and the knowledge of their registration letter and number when the pocket is at the desk, and in a small town recognition by the attendants.

Pres. DANA. — Do you have any fence between the attendants and the people around your counter?

C. A. CUTTER. — I have just put in a railing

some four feet long to prevent people handling the boxes of pockets and cards on the counter.

Pres. DANA. — Do you approve of fences for any purposes?

C. A. CUTTER. — I do not like them. I would not have that fence if I could avoid it, but a year's experience showed that it was absolutely necessary to prevent not so much intentional as idle meddling. I want the whole library to be and to appear as free as possible, with no marks of separation between the force and the public, and as few notices about keeping quiet and not doing this and that and the other thing as possible. I wish my library to appear like a home, but open fireplaces, flowering plants, pictures, statues, will miss their effect if they are accompanied with the marks of the office and the prison.

W. I. FLETCHER. — What kind of chairs would you prefer for a reading-room?

C. A. CUTTER. — Light chairs with arms. I prefer cane bottoms.

Question. — What is a good mucilage?

C. A. CUTTER. — Dextrine.

Question. — What is the best temporary binder for weekly periodicals?

C. A. CUTTER. — I find the spring-back binder, furnished by the Library Bureau, best for the temporary loan of single numbers of periodicals, because it can be slipped on and off easily, and the Neilson binder best for those periodicals that are loaned like books. But neither of these is good for *Harper's Bazar* or *Youth's Companion*. They are too heavy. I prefer to make a portfolio of red press-board, which is light and costs so little that it can be thrown away when it becomes dirty.

S. S. GREEN. — I have used the spring-back binder for years.

Miss H. P. JAMES. — We have covers made for five cents. They work very nicely, particularly for circulating.

J. N. LARNED. — Does Mr. Cutter or any one else know of any binder that is good for the *Youth's Companion*, or a paper of that size and kind? The binders that are good for papers of smaller size do not seem to work at all for papers of the size of the *Youth's Companion*.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I was going to say awhile ago that our reading-room attendant has tried every sample binder that has come along. She is rather conservative and a little bit against innovations, but on the whole I think her judg-

ment is good in preferring the simple arrangement that we have. It is a portfolio with the pasteboard sides covered with paper. At the top and bottom are two or three eyelet holes for *Harper's Weekly* and papers of the size of the *Youth's Companion*. She simply puts some stitches in along the whole length of the paper and fastens through these eyelets, and does exactly the same with *Harper's Magazine* and *Scribner's*. In that case there is the trouble of using the punch, which does not interfere, however, with the binding of the magazine. The thing which recommends itself specially to me is that it is less expensive than the patent binders.

Miss C. M. HEWINS read a paper on

NEW AND OLD BOOKS—WHAT TO BUY.

(See p. 47.)

Miss HANNAH P. JAMES followed with a paper on

READING-ROOM AND PERIODICALS.

(See p. 49.)

Question.—How do you consider the *Ladies' Home Journal*?

Miss JAMES.—It is all right so far as I know.

Question.—*Puck* and *Judge*?

Miss JAMES.—I do not think I should spend money for them. I think they minister to a coarse taste.

Question.—Won't you lose a class of readers by cutting off *Puck* and *Judge* that you won't get in any other way?

Miss JAMES.—I do not know; I never tried having them.

F. B. GAY.—Do you not think that *Puck* and *Judge* represent the drummer class of the United States?

Miss JAMES.—They see them on the cars every day.

Question.—How about the *Arena*?

Miss JAMES.—That depends on the constituency. Our people do not want it.

Question.—*Youth's Companion*?

Miss JAMES.—That is all right.

F. M. CRUNDEN.—A librarian of a normal school library requests me to ask whether you would put *Puck* and *Judge* in that sort of a library.

F. B. GAY.—Certainly not.

Miss JAMES.—If they are not good for a normal school library, why are they good for the public?

F. B. GAY.—I think the editorial page of *Puck* is one of the most valuable in this country, because it puts in short space things that you will not see anywhere else.

ACCESSIONING, CLASSIFYING, AND CATALOGING.

W. I. FLETCHER.—*Accessioning*. Do have an accession catalog. Make a place for it as against what is sometimes said about doing away with it by making a combined bill-book and accession-book, and add one or two features by means of which you can do away with another record.

Classifying. Get the best, and when you have got it make it better. Make it suit your case. As I buy ready-made clothing, I generally have them cut to fit a little better after I buy them. I think there are two things to be guarded against: one is too much of a tendency to classify with a great deal of care on abstract principles. As against that we want to classify the books for use. The other thing is classifying with too little care, saying that because a book resembles certain others it goes with them. Danger probably exists in every case of a new book that it is a little different from these others, and in one sense you put two things together which seem opposite to each other. A book needs to be examined carefully to see if it does resemble these others. Classify carefully on principles of utility.

Cataloging. Have the author card for a book written before the accession-book is done, in order that the looking-up may be done once for all then, and that the record may be about the same in the accession catalog that it is on the card. Have the cataloging done as promptly as possible. Do not allow books to wait before they can go into the hands of their would-be users to be cataloged. There is no necessity of this unless you are flooded with a donation, which I hope you are, in which case you cannot catalog them all in a day.

Question.—Do you think it wise to put the shelf-mark on the accession-book?

W. I. FLETCHER.—I would not say that it is absolutely necessary, but I prefer to do it. Our practice is to write the card without numbering. The next process is to have the book put on the shelf-list and the number assigned, then that number is put on the card and also in the accession catalog.

Question.—A small library of five hundred

volumes has \$25.00 to spend for cataloging. What kind of a catalog can they make, and spend the money to the best advantage?

W. I. FLETCHER. — I would get a cheap memorandum-book and put in it all the essentials of an accession catalog. It depends a good deal on the surroundings of the library. I would get at the most convenient local paper and have a list printed there, and get copies of those lists and use them in the library.

Question. — If you have but one card would it be the author or the subject card?

W. I. FLETCHER. — Author.

Question. — If you make the author card the principal card, would you not include on the subject card, in addition to brief title any facts which would indicate the character of the edition, the number of volumes, etc., something which would indicate the value of that particular book?

W. I. FLETCHER. — I would say the date and such other remarks as the cataloger is qualified to make should appear. I would be very brief and be sure that it is correct. Always have first in your catalog the best edition, presumably the latest, and if possible have it on the same card. The reason is that in a great many cases if these are on separate cards, particularly if the new edition is arranged after the old, the person will open on the inferior edition, write out the number and call for it and get it, and perhaps never know that there is a better edition in the library.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — There have been several points brought out and questions asked which have been subject to controversy for years and regarding which we in our library are saved the trouble by having a simpler system. This last difficulty that Mr. Fletcher speaks of presents no difficulty to us, is of no practical importance to us, because we do not have any shelf numbers. We simply give the author and title of the book. That is all that is necessary. That saves in nine cases out of ten all necessity of going to the catalog at all. I think I am correct in holding to the view that the particulars about a book should be given in the subject part of the catalog. If a person looks in the author catalog and finds that you have a book that he wants by that author, that is the end of it. If he is looking through the subject catalog he is not satisfied when he finds that you have books by certain authors. He wants to know

the date and all about it. Inasmuch as this meeting is intended, as I understand, largely for the instruction of novices, I would wish to make that point and simply present it to their common sense.

REFERENCE-BOOKS AND REFERENCE WORK.

S. S. GREEN. — The first thing is to invite everybody to come to the library who has a question to ask, an answer to which is likely to be found in books. Exert yourself to the utmost to get answers to questions asked. Much time of accomplished assistants will be required. Curious questions will be asked. I heard John Harrison, librarian of the London Library, say that Thackeray once came into his library and said he wanted to know something about General Wolfe. He didn't want to know what he could get from histories. He wanted to know what the color of his breeches was. Questions relating to every-day matters will be asked. Recently I was asked, "Where shall I find how to make a gelatin mould for plaster, of Paris casts? A man says he will let me have the receipt if I will pay him \$50. I want to get it for nothing, if I can." A man came to me two or three days before I left home and wanted to know how to make plaster masks from the faces of living or dead persons. I told an assistant to get books on modelling in clay and on the process in sculpture. He found from these in a general way how to make a mask, but not as particular an account as he wanted. I found a magazine article on the subject, and that gave him the details he wanted. A few days ago a man came to the library and wanted to know what the law of partnership was in Switzerland. He didn't know whether he wanted the national law or the law of the canton of Zurich. Both the national law and that of the canton of Zurich were borrowed for him. You see what kinds of questions are asked. The common, every-day questions seem to be the hardest for the assistants to answer.

J. K. HOSMER. — The Pabst Brewing Co. not long ago offered a prize for a collection of the largest number of omens. It was won by a Minneapolis lady. These omens were collected in our library, and help was furnished her by our reference assistant. How much time is a library justified in spending in helping such people?

S. S. GREEN. — Where important wants are

to be supplied it seems proper to take considerable time to supply them. In such cases as those referred to by Dr. Hosmer, I always say, "We will help you and give you just as many books as you want. What is your question?" Then I tell an assistant to get a half dozen books on that subject and set the inquirer at work to find what he wants. I tell him that, of course, he cannot expect us to take time to find the answers to his questions, saying that we will make his work light by giving him books likely to have them. When he gets through with one lot of books we give him another.

C. A. NELSON. — When I was in New Orleans a great many questions came in from the school-children who were seeking answers to the test questions given in their school histories. In order to save the time of my assistants, I had a memorandum made of each question and where the answer was found, and when a question was repeated, it was a simple matter of consulting the cards.

J. K. HOSMER. — We have sometimes been puzzled over this question: What animal famous in fable made a daring leap which excited great merriment and afterwards resulted in an elopement? I looked up the answer, and it was one of my early triumphs as a librarian, "The cow jumped over the moon, the little dog laughed to see such sport, and the dish ran away with the spoon."

S. S. GREEN. — I think it is best that several persons in a library should be trained to answer questions so that there will be one or more persons in the library all the time to do it. Then I believe they should be taught that they should never try to answer a question unless they know how to do it, and to pass along questions which they cannot answer to a higher officer of the library.

W. C. LANE. — Is it not the proper thing to do, instead of answering the questions yourself, to tell the people where the answers can be found?

S. S. GREEN. — Certainly. The proper thing is not for the librarian or assistant to tell the person what the answer to a question is, but to give him a book and show him how to find the answer to the question for himself. You want to teach children how to use books so that they will be able to find information in books when they want it.

It would seem as though you ought to have a great deal of information in order to do this

kind of work. The more education you have the better. You better read a good newspaper every day to find out what people are thinking about, and be able to refer them to good authorities on the matters which are under discussion in the community. You ought to read a good literary paper and keep all the numbers and see what literary matters are under discussion. If any subject comes into consideration in the community, such as faith cure, you ought to know what it is. Bear in mind that while you cannot have too much knowledge a good librarian needs to be a walking bibliography rather than a walking encyclopædia.

Miss C. H. GARLAND read a paper on

THE LIBRARIAN'S ANNUAL REPORT.

(See p. 65.)

REPORTS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The members of the finance committee desire to place on record their sorrow that Mr. George W. Cole was obliged, by reason of ill-health, to resign the office of treasurer, which he filled so acceptably. They are pleased to learn that he has so far recovered as to be able to resume his work.

The Association is fortunate in securing the services of Mr. E. H. Anderson, librarian of Carnegie Library at Pittsburgh, as acting treasurer, whose report, as submitted, is most satisfactory.

The receipts of the Association for the year from annual memberships have been \$1070, and from annual fellowships \$85. The addition to this of the sum of \$145 from library memberships is a welcome one. No better work could be done by this Association than to call the attention of the boards of managers of the libraries of the country to the desirability of enrolling the institutions under their charge among the members of the Association.

The payments of the treasurer have been authorized by the committee and have fallen within the estimates. The balance on hand, as reported by the treasurer, is \$1558.14. The number of members is 512.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES L. WHITNEY,	} Finance Committee.
GARDNER M. JONES,	
A. W. WHELPLEY,	

SEPT. 3, 1896.

The undersigned have examined the accounts of the Treasurer of the American Library As-

sociation for 1895-6 and find them correctly kept, with vouchers for all payments.

JAMES L. WHITNEY, } *Finance*
GARDNER M. JONES, } *Committee.*
A. W. WHELPLEY, }

CLEVELAND, OHIO, }
Sept. 3, 1896. }

The undersigned report that they find the accounts of the Trustees of the A. L. A. Endowment Fund correctly kept.

JAMES L. WHITNEY, } *Finance*
GARDNER M. JONES, } *Committee.*
A. W. WHELPLEY, }

CLEVELAND, OHIO, }
Sept. 3, 1896. }

Voted, That the reports be accepted and adopted.

Recess at 5:37 p.m.

SIXTH SESSION.

(THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1896.)

Called to order by the President at 8:17 p.m., after which J. N. Larned assumed the chair.

J. N. LARNED. — Ladies and gentlemen: I take the chair very willingly because I think it is desirable that our President should have some rest from his arduous labors, and I am quite willing to bear my part for that purpose.

The session this evening is to be devoted entirely to the discussion of this list which was prepared as a Supplement to the A. L. A. Catalog. The list is selected from the publications that have appeared since that time in 1893 when the selection of books for the A. L. A. Catalog ended, bringing it down to the present year and as late in the present year as was practicable. This Supplement was prepared under the direction of a committee appointed by the A. L. A. for that purpose, of which committee Miss Cutler is the chairman. The list as submitted was made from a larger list, which went to each member of the committee, and I believe that the books that appear in this list are those that received not less than three votes from the committee. This of course does not represent a unanimous judgment on the part of the committee, but it simply represents a choice made by the votes of at least three members of that committee. The list as thus prepared and printed was sent out for the criticism of members of the Association, and I suppose that each

member of the Association received a copy of the list and was requested to make any criticisms or suggestions in regard to it. I understand from Miss Cutler that only 60 of those lists were returned. The remainder are presumably in the hands of the members of the Association. It is to be hoped that they have all brought their lists with them. If they have not, it is impossible to supply them all with lists for this evening's discussion. Those that were returned have been distributed to the persons who returned them, and a few other copies have been distributed.

A plan of discussion has been arranged by the committee because it is impracticable to have such a list of books as this satisfactorily discussed without some quite definite plan. The committee have arranged for a division of subjects and for a selection of subjects also. You will observe that not all the subjects appear in the little program* which has been printed for this evening's discussion. It is impossible within the two hours that we are to give to the subjects to-night to go over them all. The discussion on each subject has been placed under the direction of some one person who will attempt, if it is possible to do so, to give some guidance and direction throughout the discussion. It has been made a rule by the committee for the evening, which will be adhered to unless it is overruled by a vote of the Association, that no speaker shall occupy more than three minutes. That will be necessary in order to make the most of our time.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON A. L. A. SUPPLEMENT.

MARY S. CUTLER. — The report of the committee is really the list which most of you hold

*AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,

CLEVELAND, SEPT. 3, 1896,

A. L. A. Catalogue Supplement.

Report of the committee, - - - Miss M. S. Cutler
Introduction, - - - - - C: A. Cutter
Discussion on tentative list:

Subject	Conducted by	Time
Sociology,	F: M. Crunden,	15m.
Science,	T: L. Montgomery,	10m.
Useful arts,	G. M. Jones,	5m.
History,	R. G. Thwaites,	20m.
Children's books,	Miss C. M. Hewins,	20m.
Fiction,	J. N. Larned,	30m.

All are invited to take part in the discussion.
Each speaker limited to three minutes.

in your hands with the three pages of prefatory matter. I do not feel at all sure how many of you have read this preface. This summer it was my pleasure to attend for the first time Barnum & Bailey's greatest show on earth, and in front of one of the biggest signs I saw a man calling loudly to the crowd as they passed by and exhorting them to read that sign. When I picked up the August number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* and in an editorial article on the A. L. A. Supplement read as a suggestion something which had been decided upon by the committee and printed in this preface, I felt that I should have to play here the part of the man in the circus and call upon you to read our sign. However, I will content myself with emphasizing three points for the discussion:

First, this list is, as it claims to be, only a tentative list. It does not pretend to be the final and unalterable decision of the committee. We are hoping to get some light from the discussion here this evening, and also from the opinions of experts to whom this list will be submitted before final publication. It is certainly very important in the discussion that we bear constantly in mind the scope of the list. As the chairman has already said, the list covers a limited period; that is, books from January 1, 1893, to June 1, 1896. Of course, in the final publication it will be brought down to date, but as it is printed it only extends to June 1. The criticism has been passed more than once that the Supplement to the A. L. A. Catalog should not have been confined to the current books, that it should have contained many of the older books which a library starting with the A. L. A. Library as a basis might naturally and properly add as well as some of the current books. This criticism is certainly a perfectly fair one. It may be that this plan would have been wiser than the plan which the committee decided on. It seems to me, as a matter of personal opinion, that the plan of the committee was the better one, and that we should have ultimately not only our A. L. A. Catalog of 5000 volumes, but an A. L. A. Catalog also of 10,000 volumes, and an A. L. A. Catalog of 25,000 volumes, and possibly one of 50,000 volumes, all from the standpoint of the public library, these to be accompanied by a yearly supplement of the best current books. However, this is a matter of opinion. As a matter of fact, for the purposes of discussion this evening, we are bound by the

decision of the committee to stick to the current books for our A. L. A. Supplement.

Again, we must bear in mind the scope of the list as regards the size of the library planned for. The committee have intended to include in this list the best books of this period which the larger libraries should buy (leaving out the very great public libraries like those of Boston and Chicago, which presumably will buy practically everything that is of any value whatever), and it is their intention in the final publication to provide for the smaller libraries, the libraries of 5000 volumes, we will say, which started out with the A. L. A. Catalog, by checking in this list books which will be of service to them. We shall save endless confusion in the discussion if we bear in mind these three points: (1) that the list is a tentative list; (2) that it covers only books published in the English language from January 1, 1893, to June 1, 1896; and (3) that it is not limited to the uses of the small poor library.

INTRODUCTION.

C. A. CUTTER. — What is there more important for us than the choice of books, the selection of those tools with which we are to work upon the public, the selection of what will in the end determine whether the public will come to our libraries at all, and what influence we shall have on them? When I realized what it was to undertake to select and to build up a library, the A. L. A. Catalog was one of the first things to which I turned to assist me in the choice of books. We got for the library everything in that catalog that was not already in the other city library. The librarian can hardly have too many aids in this work. Although it is a little away from the subject, let me mention the advantage which I have found in the list appearing every month in the *Bookman* of the books which are most popular in the different cities.

I have no doubt that the Supplement to the A. L. A. Catalog now in preparation will be as useful as the original list. In bringing us together to-night to assist the committee in their final decision, of course their purpose was to get advice, but there is another good end to be attained. This discussion will be to us an object lesson in criticism. The Massachusetts Library Club has a board of 15 members, to whom are submitted novels which they read and report upon. I will venture to say that every

member of that board is a much more accomplished critic and a much better judge, after having read two novels a week for a year with a view of deciding upon them, than he was before. So that to-night we ought to go away better critics, after having noted the different principles on which the different persons who will speak judge their books, and having considered whether we should judge on the same principles or not. It is not so much the judgment which may be pronounced on any particular book which is going to do us any good, but seeing why the judgments are rendered by the different persons.

SOCIOLOGY.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — Such a formal announcement as we have on this card would seem to imply thorough preparation on the part of those who were to lead the discussion. I think it is only just, in self-defence, that I betray some secrets and say that the committee were all averse to this sort of an arrangement, and we left the whole thing to the chairman. She has abused her autocratic power by making these assignments and putting them in print, and anything in print has the seal of authority. If I could have found a quarter of an hour for quiet thought, since she told me at noon what I was to do, I should have liked to present in somewhat consecutive form some of the ideas that I had when I was called upon to vote on this list. I was very much impressed, as of course all of us were, by the remarks made in the thoughtful and scholarly address of Mr. Larned regarding the ferment of the present time. That is constantly in my mind. I was reminded of what a friend of mine said not long ago, a man of considerable prominence. He said that he actually trembled for the fate of his children. I do not go that far, because I am an optimist. I think everything is going to come out all right, but we are certainly in a state of great turmoil at present. I therefore think that of all the departments in the library, sociology is the most important, that all the others are important as they lead up to that, that all discoveries in science are for the building up of a better society. As I said once in an address before the St. Louis Commercial Club, much better things could be done for the cities of St. Louis and Chicago than to bring them within two hours of each other by an electric

railroad. We have developed far enough, as Mr. Larned said, on that line. We have found means of creating wealth in abundance. What we want now is to devise an organization that shall secure a more equitable distribution of that wealth. The same thing applies whether it is material wealth or wealth of knowledge. If I were a very rich man I would much rather endow a magnificent public library for everybody in the city and the surrounding country than I would a university for a few. I believe it is much more important that every boy and girl should learn to read his or her native tongue than that a few people should learn to read Greek and Latin, Hebrew, and various other things. It is not of much consequence to me what my neighbors believe in matters of theology; I consider it of no consequence. Any creed, if thoroughly carried out, is good enough to live by. It is of no consequence to me what he believes about philosophy except in so far as it affects his actions in daily life, but it is of great consequence to me and to all society what his opinions are on these great sociological questions that are now before the world. It is of great importance to me what he believes on the principles of taxation, because on that depends the proper development of the city in which I live, and of the country of which I am a citizen.

Referring to Mr. Cutter's last remark as to the principle on which I cast in my votes for the books, I will say it was in short this: I know, and my limited experience and my reading of history teach me that whatever may be the right thing, the best thing, it is not that which we have now. I know that surely is not the best; it never has been, it never will be; there is always something better beyond. I can therefore clasp hands with anybody who has something new to propose. I may not adopt it, but I am willing to consider it. I can clasp hands with anybody except the rock-ribbed conservative. Therefore my votes have been in this matter of sociology in favor of the books that propose new theories. They may not be sound, but, at any rate, they are worth considering. Some of the old books are just about as useful as some of the books on astronomy were (if we can dignify it by that name) before the time of Copernicus, and they will be just as much out of date some years from now as are the books of Copernicus. Perhaps it would be

proper for me to add that I had no more to do with this particular department than any other member of the committee, and that it was arbitrarily assigned to me by the chairman.

W. I. FLETCHER. — I would like to bring up the third title under Sociology, the "Brooklyn Ethical Association," with the inquiry whether it is not somewhat too fragmentary to deserve a place among these books on that subject. My impression is that it is a collection of quite short pers, possibly not quite worthy of a place in this list.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I am thoroughly in favor of including those books. I think that a few pages on a live question and with discussion of it by bright men and women, such as take part in those meetings of the Brooklyn Ethical Association, are worth more than a whole volume in the way of a systematic treatise. It seems to me above all things what we want are books or chapters of a single page that will awaken thought.

G. M. JONES. — I will say as Mr. Crunden has said, that these brief essays, though they may not settle very much, are very stimulating.

S. S. GREEN. — I thought all those books were considered very good indeed.

W. A. BARDWELL. — They are very good books.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I should not take the authority of Brooklyn; Brooklyn might be partial, but I certainly would put every one of them into the collection. This last is included because it is the last one out.

MARY S. CUTLER. — The earlier publications are in the A. L. A. Catalog.

C. W. ANDREWS. — One of them is in this list under Biology.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — Under Political science I would call special attention to Prof. Commons's "Proportional representation." As that question certainly lies at the basis of all political reform, it ought to be in every library.

W. A. BARDWELL. — Codman's "Brook Farm" is represented by Rev. Mr. Chadwick as being a very poor work.

Miss C. M. HEWINS. — It is a book of somewhat gossipy reminiscences of Brook Farm and of the people who were there, and has a certain value in relation to the transcendental movement. It is not a history of it, but a supplement to some of the histories of the transcendental period in New England.

W. I. FLETCHER. — I would call attention to Call's "Coming revolution," to say that I do not know who this Call is.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I read that book with a great deal of interest. There was some doubt expressed by members of the committee, and I checked it with a double check and put opposite, what I now repeat with emphasis, that as an awakener of thought it is worth any average dozen books in the list. If you read it I think you will agree with me. You may not agree with his view, but you will agree that it sets people thinking, and thinking, too, on live questions of the day, the life that now is. It is a call to the unawakened.

W. I. FLETCHER. — It seems to me that we want to be cautious in recommending, as it is a rather serious business for the A. L. A. to stand behind this catalog. I am a little in doubt, with all respect to friend Crunden's views, about our recommending books whose chief recommendation is that they are awakeners of thought. A good many of the most questionable books published are books whose chief recommendations are that they set people to thinking. I do not know just what is best to do about this, but, knowing a little about the character of this book, and not knowing who the author is, I should question the advisability of the Association recommending it. We have a long list on Political Economy, and it seems to me that we might cut it down a little.

SCIENCE.

T. L. MONTGOMERY. — It may seem rather presumptuous in me to criticise in any way a list which has been so carefully prepared as this has been by very competent people, but in general I would say that if I make any mistakes I hope you will ascribe them to my extreme youth.

The point spoken of by Miss Cutler was, I think, very well taken. I think that in cases of this sort, where we are adding to what is supposed to be a very valuable collection of books for library purposes, it would be very much better if we were allowed to choose these books from the whole realm of knowledge rather than to confine them to the new books. Going over the list, I would take the opposite course from Mr. Crunden in Science, I think, and not admit anything that has new ideas in it till the library is stocked with the books that have established

notions with regard to the several sciences. Then, I think, when a person has thoroughly mastered those, perhaps a few books of the newer creation might be put in.

The books of Ball should be in everybody's library, and more specially the "Story of the sun." The book by Bonney has much justification. "History of mathematics" is an exceedingly good work. "Mars" is a very sound book. It seems peculiar that Tarr's "Geology" should be mentioned and Geikie's * "Text-book of geology" should be left out. I think Keane's † "Ethnology" and Osborn's "From the Greeks to Darwin" are the best books.

In regard to the botanical section Dana's books are very good, and Mr. Gibson's "Edible toadstools and mushrooms" is exceedingly good. With regard to Botany generally I should advise Koehner's "Systematic botany," in four volumes, as the most important book on that subject. It is an exceedingly valuable treatise and the text is far above the plates, which were very good.

One of the very best books on Zoölogy is Comstock's "Manual for the study of insects." So is Hickson's "Fauna of the deep sea," and Houssaye's "Industries of animals," and Scudder's books. Tryon's "Structural conchology" is an exceedingly good book. It sells for \$4.50. It is not a new book, but is more valuable than most of the books mentioned in a list such as this.

In general in the selection of books for a popular library I think a mistake is made of getting a tremendous lot of books that no one knows anything about. It seems to me very much better to get a number of guides, or a standard text-book, than to get a whole mass of material, more specially in astronomy. In the libraries I have visited they have more in astronomy than all the rest of natural sciences put together. It is not more interesting, certainly, than the rest of the scientific subjects.

G. M. JONES. — Geikie's "Text-book of geology" did not come in because it is a new edition of an old book, and the committee decided that we should confine ourselves to books originally published within the period. That would apply also to Useful Arts. I was ruled out on

* Geikie's "Text-book of geology" is in the A. L. A. Catalog.

† In the A. L. A. Catalog.

some books because they were new editions of old books.

In regard to astronomy, I think it is one of the most popular subjects in the library. Good popular books in astronomy are always in demand. That is a reason why we should have more books on astronomy.

C. W. ANDREWS. — I would like to call the attention of the committee to the fact that they have included one book in Chemistry, and, so far as I can find out, two or three on Physics, to about 15 or 20 on Botany, the same number in Zoölogy and the same number in Biology. It does seem to me that there is a slight lack of proportion.

CYRUS ADLER. — It occurred to me that it might be well to recommend Bolton's "Select bibliography of chemistry," and I think that Lord Rayleigh's "Theory of sound" is as good a book as has appeared in a great many years.

G. W. COLE. — A great deal has been said in regard to children in libraries. It seems to me that if we confine ourselves in Science to technical books and the advanced treatises there will be nothing for the children to take hold of and to interest them in these sciences. As has been said, we want something that they will become interested in and that will lead them up, and for that reason I think that these popular books, which as far as my observation goes are taken out to a great extent in the popular libraries, should be included in such a list as this.

S. H. BERRY. — I believe it is our place and privilege to push this sort of book to the front. If one once gets interested in beginnings of investigation in these scientific lines, then he will go forward and be able to make use of the higher treatises which he could not first have made any use of whatever.

T. L. MONTGOMERY. — I think the trouble has been that so few of these books are written by good men. They are almost all treatises written by people who have had very little experience in the study of science, and they are not only superficial but they are written at the expense of science as a usual thing. I think that if you get books of the character of "The story of a candle" there is no trouble in making it popular, but there must be the person back of it to make the book worth anything.

USEFUL ARTS.

G. M. JONES. — The criticism has been made upon the list of Useful Arts as submitted by the committee that it is long in proportion to the whole list. That is true. We have about 200 titles which come under the heading of Useful Arts, but as is suggested in the heading the department of Useful Arts is one in which the ordinary public library buys only in certain lines. The library in the farming community would buy the books on agriculture; a library in Philadelphia would buy books on coal-mining and iron-mining; the library in Lowell, Mass., would buy books on cotton and wool manufacture, and so on. We have thought it proper that we should include books on all branches of Useful Arts, and that explains the length of the list. If you look at the list you will find that about two pages are included under the head of Engineering, which looks disproportionately long, but if you run your eye through the list you will see that there are very few cases in which the books duplicate each other. There will be one or two or three books on engineering in general, and one or two or three on the steam-engine, and so on, so that after all the list is not disproportionately long, I think.

There is another matter in this connection of which the chairman of the committee has thought it well I should speak, and that is in regard to the advice of specialists in selecting books. The experience of our committee seems to be that specialists are not best fitted to recommend books for the ordinary public library. The specialist looks at matters from too elevated a standpoint. Mr. Montgomery has had a little too much, I think, of that way of looking at things in speaking of books on Science. The specialist will not look at a book on Electricity unless it is full of mathematics, going into higher trigonometry, perhaps into calculus, while in our libraries 99 out of 100 readers know little about mathematics. The specialist is also more apt to have prejudices, and, as Mr. Iles suggested in his paper, they might condemn the man who does not exactly believe as they do in regard to some disputed points.

H. J. CARR. — From my experience I agree most heartily with Mr. Jones's remarks. Mr. Jones says Philadelphia would buy only books

on coal and iron mining. On the contrary, we should want books on all manufacturers' arts.

There is one book in Chemical Technology that I would question very much — Gathmann's "American soaps." It is an exceedingly expensive book in proportion to others named in the list, costing \$15. I have had occasion to go over the subject with two soap manufacturers, and they reported that it was a very expensive book, and that Carpenter's "Soap, candles, glycerine, etc.," filled the bill and cost about \$4 or \$4.50.

G. M. JONES. — There is no department of the list upon which the committee more anxiously invites criticism from those who are posted than the department of Useful Arts. I found on going through the list that there are about 450 titles to be dealt with. Of these I found I had about 125 in my own library. Most of the others I have looked at, mostly at the Boston Public Library. Of course I am not an expert on these matters. No man can be an expert on all branches. I have simply been able to judge whether the book has been well made, whether the author appeared to be an authority, and so on. I feel my ignorance largely, and if anybody who has had experience with any of these books would inform me of any poor books, I should be specially glad to know of them. I do not need so much to be told what the good books are, but I want to be told of the poor books, so that the books can be omitted from the final list.

G. W. COLE. — Under Mechanic Trades half the list is made up of books on bookbinding. I suppose that arises from the fact that these are all the books that are published during the period covered. There is a question in my mind why the Supplement to the A. L. A. Catalog should not be compiled on the theory that the 1600 next best books should have been selected, not only from those which are current, but also from the best books of all time.

H. J. CARR. — I have been administering a library that has been buying books of this character and largely guided by the principle indicated by Mr. Jones. We buy not to exceed \$3000 worth of books a year. I had one of my assistants go through the list and attach call numbers to such books as we had, and I find that, with the exception of fiction, we have about 90% of the books on this list.

HISTORY.

R. G. THWAITES. — I have very few remarks to make by way of introduction. The department of History, like that of Fiction, is one that almost every intelligent librarian is supposed to know all about. The committee, I might as well confess, was very much at sea on the question of proportion in the matter of History and Travel. The list of Individual Biographies, commencing on page 3, is, in my opinion, disproportionate to other departments of History. Had my individual vote carried the point, I think that at least a third of the books mentioned here would have been omitted; yet doubtless there are good reasons for including all of them; there seemed, any way, to be good reasons in the minds of the majority of the committee. I doubt the policy, myself, of the average public library going so minutely into Biography as this list does. It seems to me that such a library should collect only the lives of purely representative men and women, rather than those who have figured solely in the byways of life. There are a great many biographies here which I would myself eradicate; they are all good biographies, though some of them cannot command general interest. Of course every public library should purchase biographies of the distinguished citizens of its own particular section. A library in New England would wish a great many biographies of New England people, that would be of little use to libraries in the Middle or Western states. That is a matter of local determination. If we pass for a moment to the history of the United States, there is one work in the list which many of you may object to and upon which I would be glad to have opinions. That is, President Andrews's "History of the United States." I would like to have the opinions of those present upon this book. It has been severely attacked, particularly in *The Nation*. What does Dr. Hosmer think of it?

J. K. HOSMER. — I have never read it.

S. S. GREEN. — I think it is very poor.

H. L. ELMENDORF. — I have read it, and I agree with Mr. Green.

A. W. WHELPLEY. — We would like to know why Mr. Thwaites would scratch it out, as I infer that he would.

Mr. THWAITES. — Upon the general grounds laid down in *The Nation*. The review was perhaps too severe on the whole, but still it is not

altogether a creditable book. It has in it too much of the newspaper manner, both as to treatment and material, to be seriously recommended to the inquiring student.

There are two other books, Mrs. Latimer's latest productions in her series on the 19th century: "England in the 19th century" and "Europe in Africa in the 19th century." Personally, I consider them "paste and scissors" work.

W. I. FLETCHER. — I should commend "Europe in Africa in the 19th century" on account of its availability.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I was going to say the same thing. "England in the 19th century" I voted against, because I think it has no particular value. They are both works of scissors and paste, but "Europe in Africa in the 19th century" is on a subject that is very much in the public mind now, and about which we have insufficient information, and therefore on the ground, as was said, of availability, it ought to be included.

J. N. LARNED. — I have an idea that the Latimer books are very good for what they purport to be. They only purport to be compilations. They seem to me very good specimens of compilation. They are very useful to a large class of people.

Mr. THWAITES. — There is Longstreet's "From Manassas to Appomattox." I think it is a question whether we ought to include in so restricted a list as this books of detail like that.

S. S. GREEN. — No books in a public library are more in demand than books on the Civil War. There are an immense number of old soldiers who still take an interest in following the records of the war.

J. K. HOSMER. — I should say that it is a book that should come in. It seems to me that Longstreet is one of the most interesting figures that came up in connection with the Civil War, and his presentation of the great struggle is something of the utmost interest.

H. L. ELMENDORF. — I find it much used.

H. J. CARR. — Powell's "Fifth Army corps" came to us with Longstreet's work, and our G. A. R. men, who are very strong in Pennsylvania, want both of them, and they read both as far as we can judge. As Lincoln said, "For those that like that sort of thing, it is the sort of thing they like."

C. A. NELSON. — It seems to me that when you come to an author such as Longstreet,

whether he be a literary man or not, his book should come into a public library which has any collection whatever relating to the Civil War. I think that we have reached a period in our history when people looking back on the conflict want to know what was done or what was said by the generals on both sides; and the books of Longstreet and Johnston will be read with just as much interest as those of Grant and Sherman.

Mr. THWAITES. — I would like to know whether many librarians purchase all the regimental histories in their state?

S. S. GREEN. — I think it would be advisable to purchase histories of all the regiments of one's own state, and of certain neighboring states, and, in general, histories of the army corps.

Mr. THWAITES. — There are many local histories in this list of ours which we are recommending for general libraries throughout the United States. The question might arise whether such a local work as Child's "An old New England town" ought to be here recommended; whether that ought not to be left to the judgment of the local libraries.

W. I. FLETCHER. — I would suggest that that book has a great value, outside of its references to local facts.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — Will you give us an opinion of Lummis's little book, "Spanish pioneers"? It is a small book, and yet if it is correct in its facts it is a very desirable book to have in every library. I read it with great interest, and an eight-year-old nephew of mine read it with equal interest.

Mr. THWAITES. — I think Lummis's books are very interesting indeed. He is an excellent writer.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — The value of this book is in correcting wrong impressions in which too many American boys are growing up.

Mr. THWAITES. — I suppose that most of you have, and you all ought to have, Jamieson's "Dictionary of United States history." But I would call attention to the fact that it has many mistakes in it. Nevertheless it is very useful, more so than Lossing's book, now out of print.

Fiske's "Discovery of North America" is, too, a most admirable thing. Every librarian is liable to have questions speared at him relative to mounds and Indians, and other matters of American ethnology and archæology, and

ought to be familiar with the opening chapter of Fiske's* "Discovery of America," which is the best up-to-date summary which we have. I cannot say as much for his "History of the United States."

Question. — What of Harper's "Book of facts?"

Mr. THWAITES. — It is an Americanized edition of Hayden's "Dictionary of dates."

W. I. FLETCHER. — Will you kindly give us the gist of expert comment on that book?

Mr. THWAITES. — Gentlemen who have spoken to me about that book say that so far as they have examined it critically, in certain features, it has in it numerous errors.

I consider Fiske's "History of the United States" one of the least satisfactory small one-volume histories that we have. The bibliography in it, by another hand, is of little value. The distinguishing characteristic of that bibliography is, that it mentions all the works on American history and biography issued up to date by the publishers of this particular book, and none of the histories of rival publishers that have appeared in the last 20 years. A gentleman has told me that in a conversation with Mr. Fiske relative to his "History of the United States," the latter confessed that he had had very little to do with some portions of it.

W. I. FLETCHER. — I cannot help remarking that a friend of mine informed me in confidence that Dr. Jamieson had had very little to do with some parts of his book; and I thought as much when I read it.

S. S. GREEN. — John Fiske's little "History of the Revolution" seems to me one of the finest books on Revolutionary history.

Mr. THWAITES. — In regard to Longman's "Gazetteer," edited by Chisholm, recently issued, I would say that it is most excellent for all British colonies, but for the United States it is rather weak.

S. S. GREEN. — I wrote many of the articles on Massachusetts cities.

Mr. THWAITES. — And in the preface you will find words thanking the conductor of this section for having contributed "very much on American cities." [Laughter.]

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Miss C. M. HEWINS. — Most of the children's books in the A. L. A. Supplement are under

* In A. L. A. Catalog.

Fiction. Some of them are hidden away in Sociology, and I should even recommend as a children's book that light, pernicious, and superficial work, Abbott's "The birds about us." I like very much James Baldwin's "Horse fair," which tells of all the famous horses in story, mythology, and history. Then Boyesen's "Norseland tales" is good. Helen D. Brown's "Little Miss Phoebe Gay" is a very pretty child's story. Coffin's "Daughters of the Revolution" is a good Revolutionary story for young people. Du Chaillu has been very much criticised. Joel C. Harris's books are very delightful for the children who enjoy them. I question whether the children in our public schools, who have had to learn English after they came to school, or who have not any books at home, would enjoy Uncle Remus's stories as much as children brought up in a different atmosphere would, but they are very delightful to children who have a great many books at home.

Then the Henty question comes up. We were talking it over in the train the other day. I read within a few days an article in one of the English magazines (and if we had had time to breathe here I should have gone into the library and refreshed my memory about it) about the indifference of the boys of the present day to Scott and their love for Henty. The writer claimed that there was room for both authors. My own theory about Henty is that the framework of the story is always the same. The hero goes through a number of adventures and shows a remarkable amount of wisdom for his years. He is not a street boy. He is a boy somewhat outside the experience of our own boys in school. A boy who has read Henty will know that there was such a man as Charles XII. of Sweden; he will know something about the republic of Venice and the Massacre of St. Bartholomew, something about Russia and the wars in India; he will remember that there was once a great fire in London, and something about earlier English history. It is very possible, as we all know, for a boy to go through school and study the historical textbooks without having anything to clinch the facts in them, and I believe that Henty's books do that.

Mrs. Jamison's "Toinette's Philip" is a very prettily-told story. It is romantic. It is a story of a lost child. His relatives are discovered by and by and he has a happy home. I recom-

mend Captain Charles King's "Cadet days." "The jungle book" and "The second jungle book" ought to be accepted. Emma Marshall's "Kensington Palace" is a good book for girls studying English history, and performs the same thing for girls that Henty's books do for boys.

Munroe's "Snow-shoes and sledges" is very good. I think that a boy who read "Fur-seal's tooth" and "Story about the seas" would have a more tender heart for animals all his life, and I think that he would be unwilling to do anything as he grew up that would encourage the dreadful cruelty of killing the mother seals.

The "Story of Jack Ballister's fortunes," by Howard Pyle, is good for a boy that likes that kind of a story. Marshall Saunders's "Beautiful Joe" is a story that takes the place of "Black beauty," and one of the children in the Hartford schools who was asked to write about the books and favorite characters she had read about during the year, said: "My two favorite characters are 'Beautiful Joe' and 'Thomas Jefferson.'" M. E. Seawell's naval books are very good for the period covered, and are among the best books of the year for children.

Gertrude Smith's "Arabella and Araminta" stories are very delightful. I gave the book to one of my library committee to read. He is one of the members of the board of education of the state of Connecticut. He is a man who does a great deal of educational work and has written some pamphlets on phonetics. He is much interested in teaching children the art of reading, and he said he thought it was the very best book for children. He said the only objection he had to introducing the book in the schools was its cost. It is \$2 and no discount. I have been trying it on a little girl, who is delighted with it. One day the copy was taken out of the house and carried over to amuse the little granddaughter of one of our former presidents. The little girl came up to look for the book and was told that it had gone, and she said, "If I cannot have it, I am very glad that Lucy can," and Lucy was just as delighted with it as Josephine was.

I would say of Trowbridge's "Three boys on an electrical boat" that the electricity in it is correct. "When Molly was six," by E. O. White, is another sweet, wholesome book for girls. We have no books in our library that

are more of a delight to the children, especially the children from poorer families, than Andrew Lang's Green, Yellow, Red, and Blue fairy-books, and his "Red true story-book." Lummis has some good Indian stories which I think are all right for children. Some of the short scientific books, such as "Story of a piece of coal," by E. A. Martin, are not beyond the child who likes to read about such things. Scudder's books on butterflies certainly need no recommendation in this direction, and Miller's "Four-handed folk" is interesting. Jenks's "Century World's-Fair book," I think, is a good book and I should recommend it. "Tommy Toddlers" is here. I think myself that it is a poor imitation of "Alice in Wonderland." Miss Cutler thinks differently.

Question. — How about Stanley's book, "My dark companions and their strange stories"?

Miss HEWINS. — That is not a child's book.

T. L. MONTGOMERY. — There is one book which I think is very undesirable. It is Eugene Murray-Aaron's "Butterfly-hunters in the Caribbees." It is very untrue from cover to cover, and is a book that has no foundation in fact.

W. I. FLETCHER. — What about the Elsie books?

Miss HEWINS. — We condemn them.

R. G. THWAITES. — Don't you think it's about time to have a funeral for nine-tenths of the children's literature of the present day?

Miss HEWINS. — I do.

Mr. THWAITES. — Just so long as librarians persist in buying the "rot" (it is a professional term, Sir), which circulates as children's literature, in the form of books and in the alleged children's magazines, it will continue to be published. I think that nine-tenths is of such a character that it ought never to be placed in the hands of our young people at all. You are feeding a child with skimmed milk, when he ought to have full cream. Most children may just as well have good solid literature put into their hands, right off, and not be led up to it by the easy path of so-called "language lessons." When I was a boy, we were at ten years of age put right into Greene's big English grammar, and I fancy we got along just as well as our children, who have to wade through several series of language lessons before getting down to business on the "parts of speech." The same strictures are applicable to the current notion that children need to be "led up" to

solid literature. My experience convinces me that this is a fallacy.

Miss HEWINS. — In our cities a very large proportion of the children have to learn English besides learning to read, and I find that a great many children twelve years old read about the same kind of English that you and I would read German if we had studied it one winter.

R. G. THWAITES. — Are these children's books written and published and bought by our librarians for the benefit of foreign children, or for our own?

Miss HEWINS. — In cities the proportion of foreign children is larger than American-born children. The proportion of children who have books at home is very small, and for children about twelve years old we find that the simplest fairy-tales are all that they can grasp.

Miss L. E. STEARNS. — We have over 80% of foreign-born population in Milwaukee. The "Prudy" and "Dotty Dimple" books teach them English. They read German an hour a day at school, and English at school, and we want them to talk English as soon as possible. That is why we use these books as the best kind we can find.

Miss TESSA A. KELSO. — We have had a great deal of talk about children and the relation of the school in what seems to me an extremely superficial manner. It is true that the teachers claim that many of the magazines and so-called juvenile books are historical, but they bring the children into a *blasé* attitude of mind, and you cannot get them to touch other books that are quite within their capacity.

I think it is too bad that we should encourage the publication of so much of this literature written for children which utterly unfits them for the reading of books that are quite within their understanding. I wish we might have a more serious consideration of what kind of books we are giving these teachers, not how many.

FICTION.

Conducted by J. N. Larned.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — The President called on me this morning to speak about a matter which I thought could be most appropriately brought up in connection with the discussion of Fiction. I have here a dozen or twenty copies of the Program for 1896-7 of the Modern Novel Club, a club that has been carried on in St. Louis for the last eight or ten years, which makes a study

of the modern novel. Mrs. Stone, the lady who originated this club, and, by the way, her Novel Club ante-dated Moulton's "Study of the novel," and also the study of the novel under some other professor at Yale College, holds that the novel is a reflection of modern life in all its phases. She holds, too, that modern life is the thing that is interesting and important for us to study; that it finds its best reflection in the modern novel; that you cannot get a great many people to read the essay which presents the thought of the present time, but that they will read the novel. She therefore argues in favor of the study of the modern novel. I will leave these copies of the Program here for those that may be interested in them. Her name is Mrs. C. H. Stone.

At the meeting of this committee the other night three of us found, on comparing notes with each other, that the last official act done by each of the three before leaving our libraries was to give directions for the purchase of all the books on the money question. Before I left one list had come in of twenty or thirty books; nearly all of them in paper covers, and some of them containing only a few pages, and some small pamphlets. I would simply call attention to the importance of collecting these books now, because in a year from now you will probably not be able to get them. It is those books that cost scarcely anything that are worth preserving now. Furthermore, Mr. Thwaites spoke of a plan of his of sending to the campaign committees of every party and getting their publications now while they are to be had. He carries it to a still greater extent, to pasters, leaflets, and newspaper cuttings, which he places in scrap-books, so that he has a complete history of the campaign.

J. N. LARNED. — I do not know whether I was assigned to the leadership of the discussion of Fiction by Miss Cutler on the supposition that I read all the novels that are published, or on the contrary assumption that I do not read any, and am therefore unprejudiced. As a matter of fact, I must confess to the reading of a good many novels, and I also must confess that a very large number that are likely to be called into question are books that I have not read.

Perhaps the most serious question of book selection that comes up in libraries is that connected with the novel. The novel, in the first place, is a piece of literature; in the second

place it is a question of morals, and the question of morals is really the serious one that arises. It is very hard indeed to draw the lines, for we must draw them somewhere, against the theory which is gaining ground in modern fiction, the theory of purposelessness in the novel combined with the theory of realism, which descends to things which are of questionable propriety in treatment. There are certain very important facts in life which we have no business to ignore, which it is our duty to become acquainted with, to know as much about as we can know, and to deal with as thoroughly as we can. It is the business of literature and it is the business of art to deal with those facts when they come in the way, but I think the question that arises in this matter of literature, with reference to facts of the kind to which I allude, is whether it is at all the province or the duty or the right of art and literature to go out of their way to seek for these facts. But if they come in their way necessarily, let them be dealt with plainly and squarely and honestly. But when the writer who professes a great contempt for the novel of purpose, for example, produces a novel which distinctly has a questionable purpose, as is very often the case, then he is showing himself to be false to his own theory, and he has no right to be judged with any reference to the justness of that theory at all. I think that is a fact with regard to a great many novels that are questionable in the issues of the present day. The spirit in which that kind of literature is dealt out to us and that kind of art is prepared for us is a spirit which would bring toadstools and toads and old bones into our parlors, and would send us to the garbage dumps for our picnicking, and perhaps give us the boiler-shop for our music. Those are the ugly things in life which we have got to have and got, I say, to deal with; but it is not necessary that we should undertake to make them any part of the decorative outline of life or undertake to deal with them in a decorative way. Among the books mostly of this nature that have been called in question, in the correspondence which the chairman of the committee has had with members of the Association to whom this list has been submitted, there are several, the titles of which I will read, and they will almost necessarily be brought up for discussion, and beyond these I hope there will be discussion of others that may be suggested.

There is Mrs. Burnett's "Lady of quality," which I have not read and have no opinion about, but I have heard a very vigorous opinion of the book expressed this evening which I hope will be repeated on the floor.

Caine's "The Manxman," Crane's "Red badge of courage," Frederic's "Damnation of Theron Ware," Morrison's "Tales of mean streets"; I did read a few of Morrison's "Tales of mean streets" for the purpose of having an opinion upon the book, and I felt as mean as a mean street after I had finished it.

Then there are the tales of Parker and the Henty books on which Miss Hewins has commented. Those are the books in the Fiction list which have been called in question in the correspondence which the chairman of the committee has had. I would like to have some expressions of opinion on Mrs. Burnett's "Lady of quality."

H. L. ELMENDORF.—The best criticism I have heard on the book is that she is a lady of bad quality.

W. F. STEVENS.—My private opinion expressed publicly is that it is not fit to be read.

S. S. GREEN.—I have not read the book, but Miss Anna Ticknor, who is at the head of the Society for study at home, told me that she considered it a very bad book for young people to read. It is a story of a lady whose life is very wrong, who reforms, but marries somebody of great wealth and lives in luxury all the time after. She ought to have gone into obscurity instead of being placed in a prominent position.

W. I. FLETCHER.—I understand that there is a very serious objection to the book; that the style of the language is very inferior.

J. K. HOSMER.—I have read the "Lady of quality," and I read it with very great interest, because it was written by the author of "Little Lord Fauntleroy." I think that it is a story of power, though lacking in artistic quality. The book is an uncompromising picture of life as it was in the beginning of the last century. There is plenty of profanity in it, and no veil is thrown over other matters that are commonly concealed. It seems to me that it is a book that is questionable, although it is a book which has strong marks of power, though very faulty.

Mrs. ZELLA A. DIXSON.—I think the whole question of that book should rest with the persons who are to read it. I think there are a large number of persons who should not read

the book, but I am sure that to professors of criminology and persons who are studying that class in sociology the book would be of use. The purpose of the book is to show that it is possible for a woman who has had a sinful career to redeem her life, in the same way that it is for a man who has made mistakes. It seems to me that such books should be classed with books like Adam's "Memoirs of a physician"; should be put in a certain class and not in a general list for persons who have no excuse for investigating realms of that kind.

F. B. GAY.—I read the book, and I have read a great many more very bad books. [Laughter.] It seems to me that that is the most vulgar book I have ever read, vulgar in its conception and vulgar in its working out. If that book is true to the time in which she places it, then "Henry Esmond" is very untrue, and "Tom Jones" and "Clarissa Harlowe" are also untrue. It is a bad book any way you look at it, as a piece of art or as a story.

R. G. THWAITES.—In regard to Mrs. Dixon's statement, I doubt very much whether any Chicago professor of criminology could get any new points from the book. He might like a collection of erotic knowledge to add to his collection, but I doubt if such books would give him any pointers.

ELLA M. McLONEY.—I have read this book and I will confess to ordering a second copy for my own library. I think the book is a pernicious one and one that the A. L. A. should be very slow to recommend in its special list. The whole conception is unnatural and the influence must inevitably be unwholesome so far as it goes.

S. H. BERRY.—Most of us have very little money to spend on modern fiction, and why can't we find books that can be recommended without any question? It is not a question as to whether we should put in all that is published, but what must we select from the large field? There are a few books that we can buy, and can we not surely find these few books such as are of undoubted high character from the literary and moral standpoint?

F. M. CRUNDEN.—I was one of five that took part in a little symposium on the question of books after the Lake Placid Conference. Mr. Gay was another one of those five. After having heard the character of the books that he has read, to which he has made general con-

fession, and after having listened to his condemnation of this book, I should think there could be no longer any question about it; it should be barred out.

J. N. LARNED. — If there is any character in "The Manxman" we will have that dissected.

F. R. KANTZ. — I want to make a statement for "The Manxman" coming from a native Manxman. I know a man who lived in the place where this story was written. He says its scenes are absolutely true. It has at least that much value. He knows the old mill, he knows the house where the Manxman lived, and the jail, and all the scenes of the story. Its character-drawing is excellent, and the only question which remains about the story — for its artistic value goes without saying — is that of its morality. To me it has been a very strong book and a book the morality of which I do not question. It seems to me that the moral lesson and teaching of it are altogether good.

There is one book that was not mentioned, and that is James Lane Allen's "Summer in Arcady." That has been so vigorously condemned that I want to say a word for it. If anybody has any doubt about its purpose, I should ask him to read the preface before reading the book. To me it is a very beautiful, simple, altogether good story.

A majority favored retaining "The Manxman" on the list and excluding "The lady of quality."

Mr. LARNED. — What of Crane's "Red badge of courage"?

A. L. PECK. — It abounds in profanity. I never could see why it should be given into the hands of a boy.

Miss TESSA L. KELSO. — I think the "Red badge of courage" is an important contribution to the literature of arbitration. I think it belongs to that. I think that any one who reads that book will say that it is the finest thing in the world to put into the hands of people to make them converts to the abolition of war, and therefore it should go under arbitration.

Miss C. M. HEWINS. — There is a better war story than that, and that is Suttner's, translated under the title of "Ground arms."

C. W. ANDREWS. — I have had the pleasure of listening to the comments of men who stood high in the ranks of the army and who declared that the "Red badge of courage" is not true. Therefore I should be decidedly against leaving

it on the list because of its not being true to the facts.

C. A. NELSON. — If we object to the English in children's books I think we certainly should object to the English in this "Red badge of courage."

G. M. JONES. — This "Red badge of courage" is a very good illustration of the weakness of the criticism in most of our literary papers. The critics in our literary papers are praising this book as being a true picture of war. The fact is, I imagine, that the criticisms are written by young men who know nothing about war, just as Mr. Crane himself knows nothing about war. Gen. McClurg, of Chicago, and Col. Nourse, of Massachusetts, both say that the story is not true to the life of the soldier. An article in the *Independent*, or perhaps the *Outlook*, says that no such profanity as given in the book was common in the army among the soldiers. Mr. Crane has since published two other books on New York life which are simply vulgar books. I consider the "Red badge of courage" a vulgar book, and nothing but vulgar.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I think in all cases of doubt we ought to leave the book from the list. There certainly has been objection enough raised to make this a doubtful book.

J. N. LARNED. — If it is a fact that the book is not true to the realities of war, then I think that that should be decisive against it. My own opinion was that it was a wonderful piece of writing. Whether a young man could have possibly acquired any notion of war that would enable him to imagine reality, is a question. If he has not, I do not think his book will stand.

S. S. GREEN. — Mr. Jones mentioned the name of Col. Nourse; he said the same thing to me.

The majority recommended striking the "Red badge of courage" from the list.

Mr. LARNED. — Frederic's "The damnation of Theron Ware."

J. N. WING. — I read that book and I think it is far more pernicious than the "Lady of quality." I think no one can read it without feeling the worse for reading it. It is a slur at religion, it is on the borderland of immorality, and is a book, I think, pernicious, and most demoralizing.

G. M. JONES. — I must get up in defence of "The damnation of Theron Ware." I think it is a great book. It is one of the greatest novels

that has been written in five years. It strikes me that it is very true to life, and the moral question brought up is a very important one. All I can say is that every one here ought to read that book carefully and thoughtfully. I think quite a large proportion of those here will admire the book as much as I do.

A. W. WHELPLEY.—I read the book with interest. I do not think that I ever read of such a fool as Theron Ware in my life. He got himself into the difficulty with his eyes open. I do not think that it is the greatest book, or the noblest book, but I really do not think it is the worst. I would vote not to throw it out.

H. C. WELLMAN.—I should like to ask whether this Association wants to recommend a book which has made a large number of our members who have read it feel worse off for reading it. I do not think we ought to recommend it.

S. S. GREEN.—I think it ought to go into the intermediate department, not for circulation. It would be better for Mr. Jones to put it in the intermediate department of his library instead of in the circulating.

A. H. HOPKINS.—I have not read the book; I do not expect to read it, but I wish to express myself very strongly against putting any such book on this list.

F. R. KANTZ.—The really serious thing about this book is that Mr. Wing and Mr. Jones are both right. The serious thing is not whether it shall be read or not, or whether it shall go into the libraries or not; it is a book that can produce very much evil. The right people do not read it. It is all right for the librarians to read it, but they are not the persons who will be harmed by it.

C. A. NELSON.—I am not prepared to vote to put on this list any book that two librarians will stand up here and declare to be a bad book.

A majority favored expunging "The damnation of Theron Ware" from the list.

Miss TESSA L. KELSO.—We may discuss it as much as we like, but we should exclude Fiction from the lists. I think it is one thing that we ought to exclude. Discuss it as much as you like here for informal action, but exclude it from the printed list bearing the imprint of the A. L. A.

G. M. JONES.—I would ask if the chairman of the committee is not ready to give us some

figures, which were talked about the other day, about the number of books to which there were serious objections, to illustrate the difficulty in making a list like this.

Miss M. S. CUTLER.—I have not the statistics for the other classes, but in Fiction one-third of the books on the list were objected to.

Mr. LARNED.—Now for Morrison's "Tales of mean streets."

W. I. FLETCHER.—I read the first story, and immediately moved on to a better street.

H. M. UTLEY.—I objected to the book for my library, and therefore would object to putting it on the list.

H. L. ELMENDORF.—I bought the book for my library, and took it out immediately.

A majority favored expunging "Tales of mean streets" from the list.

Mr. LARNED.—What is to be said of the stories by Gilbert Parker?

H. L. ELMENDORF.—I am more heartily in favor of Gilbert Parker's series than anybody's else that I read. I cannot see the slightest objection to them. We are told that he makes his hero a bad man; certainly his good actions are related and not his bad ones, and the way they are presented by Mr. Parker is not only fascinating but admirable. I do not see why the books should be called into question.

R. G. THWAITES.—I can testify to the truth of the historical setting and of the local color of Parker's series. I think they are most admirable historical novels, treating of a significant and very romantic period of American life, that of New France. I do not know of anything in the market that begins to approach them. As American historical novels I consider them of great importance.

Miss MARY S. CUTLER.—Mr. Iles, who made the objection, has left the meeting, and is not here to state it for himself. Mr. Iles has lived for many years in Canada, but he gives an entirely opposite statement to Mr. Thwaites. He says they are untrue to the life which they represent.

Mr. THWAITES.—According to my study of New France they are true to the life of that period. In a number of Gilbert Parker's stories he treats of the country around Lake Superior, of Wisconsin, of the country between Lake Superior and Hudson Bay, and of the Georgian Bay region. I should say that he scores a high degree of success.

A majority favored retaining the stories of Gilbert Parker.

Mr. LARNED. — We now come to the Henty books.

A. L. PECK. — They fill a very good purpose in small communities, and for all our young men who never read history the Henty books give them at least some ideas, and with the exception of one, which is nothing but a blood-and-thunder story, I bought the entire set, and my boys and some of my girls have stopped reading Alger and Optic. I think the Henty books have done a great work in our community in making our young people acquainted with historical novels and leading them up to the study of history.

S. S. GREEN. — I have read three or four of them myself. I think, on the whole, that the books are very useful.

H. L. ELMENDORF. — I should like to say a word for Henty, and lately I have not had any mind to read much else besides Henty books, that Henty is not doing as some of our other writers. His last batch of books and those that are included in this list, I think to be the very best of his productions and the most interesting and the nearest true to the historical fact.

A majority favored retaining the Henty books.

Miss KATE E. SANBORN. — I should like to ask for the expression of some opinion concerning Hamlin Garland's "Rose of Dutcher's Coolly."

W. I. FLETCHER. — I have been asked to speak for a librarian here and to say that the book is reprehended very severely in their library and community.

B. C. STEINER — I purchased the book and decidedly advise any one against buying it.

HENRY F. JENKS. — The book was read by two ladies in our place and was submitted to me for judgment. I pronounced it extremely coarse and undesirable, and that no good purpose was to be gained by the reading of it, and I recommended its being taken out.

Miss C. M. HEWINS. — A copy was sent to us and the leaves were cut before we decided whether to order it or not. We could not send it back, but the book has been lost and never found since.

Miss MARY S. CUTLER. — I wish Miss Eastman would read us a letter she received from Mr. Garland himself stating that he had a pur-

pose in writing the book and what the purpose was.

Miss LINDA A. EASTMAN read a letter received from Mr. Garland.

A majority voted to exclude "The Rose of Dutcher's Coolly" from the list.

H. M. UTLEY. — I notice upon the list one book which I have refused to buy. Although the "Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes" are very fascinating, I object on principle to putting detective stories on the shelves of a free public library.

S. S. GREEN. — Do you object to Gaboriau?

H. M. UTLEY. — I have no detective stories in the library.

Miss C. M. HEWINS. — May I ask if Mr. Utley would bar "Bleak House" from his library.

H. M. UTLEY. — The point is that this is a detective story pure and simple. Of course crimes and detection of crimes may be introduced incidentally, but a story which deals exclusively with crime and the detection of crime I do not think should be placed in the hands of the public, specially of young persons.

Mr. LARNED. — What is the opinion of George Meredith's novels?

A. L. PECK. — I believe it would be advisable to exclude at least "Lord Ormont and his Aminta" and "The amazing marriage."

The opinion of the majority was in favor of retaining "Lord Ormont and his Aminta" and "The amazing marriage."

W. I. FLETCHER. — It seems to me that it would be a very great advantage if there was an opportunity after the discussion to-night for those who take any interest in it to do some marking on this list. I think the discussion has been just what will prepare us to do our marking much more intelligently. I would suggest that the time be extended if convenient to have further marking done on the list. I think the list would be very greatly improved now if we could have an opportunity of going over it again.

Miss M. S. CUTLER. — As 600 lists were sent out and only 60 have been returned, there is every opportunity afforded those who wish for marking. If those 60 would like to have their lists back for further revision we shall be very glad to return them.

Recess at 11 p.m.

The chairman announced that the local committee regretted being obliged to abandon their

plan of having music at the Hollenden House, but hoped that the substitute provided would be acceptable. In a few minutes the hall was cleared for dancing, and the members, forgetting the stormy day and the three long and busy sessions to which they had devoted themselves, indulged in well-earned relaxation and tripped

"On the light fantastic toe"

well into the "wee sma' hours ayont the twal'."

SEVENTH SESSION.

(FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1896.)

Called to order by the president at 9:15 a.m.

The president appointed S. H. Berry, of Brooklyn, and A. S. Root, of Oberlin, tellers for the election of officers.

JOHN THOMSON introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved, That a committee of five (to be nominated by the Executive Committee) be appointed to collect information and statistics both as to the laws affecting, and as to the work of Travelling and Home libraries, with instructions to report thereon at the next conference, with suggestions as to the best methods of carrying on and extending these systems."

Mr. Thomson moved the adoption of the resolution. *Voted.*

The president ruled that in the election of officers a plurality of votes shall elect.

C. A. NELSON withdrew his name as a candidate for secretary of the A. L. A., thanking the committee for the honor of the nomination, and stating that pressure of regular duties would not allow a proper performance of the requirements of the position if he should be elected.

The president called attention to a letter from Adolph Hepner, printed in the Preliminary Papers, on

A PROPOSITION FOR AN AMERICAN LIBRARIES' CLEARING-HOUSE.

(See p. 67.)

S. H. BERRY moved that the Executive Board be requested to appoint a committee of three to consider and report on the feasibility of establishing an American libraries' clearing-house. *Voted.*

Mr. UTLEY called a meeting of the Michigan Library Association for 11 o'clock.

The Recorder requested that records of all special meetings be sent to him by their respective secretaries for publication.

H. J. CARR assumed the chair.

ALMON BURTCH (of Chicago) read a paper on the

RELATION OF THE BOOKSELLER TO THE LIBRARIAN.

[Mr. Burtch declined to furnish his paper for publication.]

ALMON BURTCH. — I move that the Executive Board appoint a committee to consider this question of the relation of the bookseller and the library, and to recommend such measures as it may deem best for the better education of the bookseller. *Voted.*

A. L. A. SUPPLEMENT.

F. P. HILL. — I move that the Committee on A. L. A. Supplement be continued. *Voted.*

Mr. Hill then read his paper on

PREPARING BOOKS FOR ISSUE, AND CHARGING SYSTEMS.

(See p. 51.)

PRES. DANA. — Do you use two colored inks in stamping your dates?

F. P. HILL. — Yes, sir; I think the different colored inks catch the eye quickly.

J. F. LANGTON. — I did not catch what you did with the readers' card; do you put it in a pocket?

F. P. HILL. — No, sir; it goes back to the reader. The pocket is for the book slip. When the book is not on the shelf it is in the charging tray.

J. F. LANGTON. — I would ask also how you get the readers' card when you want to take it up.

F. P. HILL. — The cards are usually left at the library when not in use, and if we wanted to take a card up we should send our messenger to the house to get it; very likely send notice in the first place

MISS L. E. STEARNS. — I think the idea of keeping the card in case the fine is not paid makes more enemies to the library than anything else I know of. Supposing a child comes three miles to the library. If you tell him that there is a fine of nine cents on his card he cannot pay it, and so you send him back without the book and very often he does not return. In our library, if a boy is fined nine cents on his

card and he has not the money with him, we tell him that he can pay the fine the next time he comes. The object is to keep the child, or the man or the woman, a patron of the library. We have a rubber stamp on which is the word "Fine," and we put the amount against it. The child takes the card with him and it is a reminder that the fine is not paid. The next time he comes he pays the fine. If the fine is not paid then, then the card is kept. But the first time let the boy take home the book. In 99 cases out of 100 you will get the fine the next time the boy comes.

F. P. HILL. — I think there is a word to be said on the other side, and that is this: that in not one case in ten, and I would almost say not one case in fifty, is the trouble with the boy or girl. The trouble is with the man or woman who wants to get rid of paying the fine. The little boys and girls are the best customers that come to the library.

G. W. COLE. — I would ask Mr. Hill what the object is of stamping the date on the pocket.

F. P. HILL. — It has the greatest object possible. This, you understand (indicating), represents the book. That book may be laid down there on the slip-rack table and discharged at any time the attendant finds time to do it. The last date found shows the date on which the book was taken out. Then she can turn to it whenever she pleases.

G. W. COLE. — The point that I wish to make is that that requires three stampings in the first place, in addition to writing the book-borrower's number. This stamp on the pocket is simply put there for the purpose of postponing the labor of discharging to some further time. We always discharged the book as it came in. That did not require passing the book to some other table and then taking up the whole work again and doing it. We had no trouble about speed. Even in our busiest times we were never clogged up at our receiving-desk.

F. P. HILL. — The circulation may be larger, but at the same time the borrower has to wait till the book is discharged. I believe that whatever system we use we ought to give the borrowers as little trouble as possible.

Miss NINA E. BROWNE. — My feeling is that the reader when he comes into the library is in a comparatively good state of feeling, and he is willing to wait and have his book discharged so as to feel that he is freed entirely from all

obligations in regard to the book. If the boxes are properly made and the cards properly adjusted, the discharging can be done very quickly, and it can be done a great deal more quickly than Mr. Hill can do his charging. So if the reader has to wait, I would rather make him wait while his book is being discharged than while it is being charged. Let those who believe in Mr. Hill's plan try the system of having the books discharged when they come in, as I have planned to have it done, and then compare the state of mind of their readers with Mr. Hill's readers and see which is the more agreeable.

F. P. HILL. — It is not the person who is at the window ready to get a book, but it is the person just behind that one who finds the fault and makes trouble.

G. W. COLE. — I think that if Mr. Hill can devise a system by which a borrower can get a book as readily as he can leave a book he will incur the thanks of the entire library world.

F. P. HILL. — I think I have such a system. We have a fair-sized library and we allow access to shelves. I think that is the best system to get a book as rapidly as possible, and when I tell you here that our loss in any one year has not been over fifty volumes from all sorts of ways, I think you will concede the point that access to shelves is the coming thing, not only in the small library, but in the large library; not only in the general books, but in your best books.

J. F. LANGTON. — I would suggest to Miss Stearns that if she stamps on the card the date when the book is due instead of the date when the book is taken out, she would do away with one difficulty. There is no calculation to be made, and a child can see when the book is to be returned. At St. Louis we have tried the two systems. We are now working practically under Mr. Hill's system. We at one time did discharge the book; now we do the same as he does, and we find that the latter system is by far the better.

Pres. J. C. DANA. — Now that the system of open shelves is brought up, I would be pleased to have a show of hands on the subject.

On a show of hands it was found that sixty librarians present had open shelves. The vote in favor of having open shelves was nearly unanimous. Those opposed to open shelves were twelve in number.

H. J. CARR. — At the time I gave an investigation to this subject I was asked to recommend

some special system. I was very careful not to do that. In that same connection, I can say, in reply to Miss Stearns's suggestion about letting them have a card if the fine is not paid, that I have tried both methods. It is merely a matter of local circumstances. You must be guided by what seems to you best. It is certainly feasible to let them draw a book a second time. On the other hand, it does not pay. You will accumulate a vast number of unpaid fines and deter the people from using the library. The best way is to keep a spare fund at the desk, and if a child comes in without the two cents or the four cents, lend him the money as a personal favor. He will appreciate it immensely.

C. A. NELSON. — Miss Moore, at the University Settlement library in New York, has no trouble in collecting fines, or even payment for lost books, from the "hoodlums," as some would call them, in the section where she is located. The boys, who will steal each other's caps and any other thing, will pay for the books that somebody else steals from them, and they pay their fines even if they pay a cent at a time. These are boys from the foreign element and the street gamins of New York, who keep in constant use fifty-four copies of the history of the United States, and all the geometries, algebras, and arithmetics that they can get hold of.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — It seems to me rather strange that the point that Mr. Langton made has not been brought out before, and I would advise every one that has not done so to make that change at once. Put on the cards any records you keep about the issue of books, the date when the book is taken out and when it should be returned. The reader should know when he ought to bring the book back.

While I am on my feet I want to say what may interest some of you as a matter of study of comparative methods, that you will find in my last report a complete explanation of all the details of the administration of our library, and in the forthcoming one a list of the records kept.

F. P. HILL. — I wish to say that I think that is one of the best reports I have seen come from any library in a great many years.

EUROPEAN TOUR.

W. C. LANE. — The committee on the European tour have instructed me to present to the

Association two votes which they would like to have passed by the Association.

First, in regard to an enrolment fee, so that there may be a sum of money on hand from which to pay the preliminary expenses of printing and postage, and very likely clerk hire. That is an expense that should not come out of the general treasury of the Association. Here is the first resolution:

"Resolved, That each person enrolling for the foreign trip shall pay to the European committee in advance an enrolment fee of five dollars. The enrolment fees thus paid shall constitute a fund for payment of the preliminary and general expenses of the trip. Persons who subsequently decide not to go will not have their fees returned. If any portion of the enrolment fees remain unexpended at the end of the trip it shall be paid into the A. L. A. Endowment Fund."

I should hope that this vote would not deter anybody who has any reasonable hope of going from enrolling, because the committee of course will need to know as soon as they can as far as possible the probable number who will be likely to go.

Pres. DANA moved that the resolution be adopted. *Voted.*

W. C. LANE. — The next vote is in regard to who shall be permitted to enroll themselves. We want, on the one hand, to have as large and representative a body of librarians and persons interested in library work as possible. Of course we want them to bring their husbands and wives and daughters, and their immediate families, and to some degree their friends, but we want to guard somewhat against having too large a number of people not immediately interested in library work. We want to have a good-sized party, on the one hand, to be able to make good terms in regard to the expense of it. On the other hand, we do not want to have too large a number, as it is not fair to our friends on the other side. Here is the second vote:

"Resolved, That only members of the American Library Association, together with the members of their families, shall be enrolled for the English trip except by unanimous vote of the European trip committee."

Take notice that this does not say "only present members." We do not wish to cut off future additions to the American Library Asso-

ciation by any means, but it says members of the American Library Association and their families.

Pres. DANA moved the adoption of the resolution. *Voted.*

Dr. CYRUS ADLER then read a paper on

FIFTY YEARS OF LIBRARY PROMOTION AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

[Dr. Adler's paper will appear in the Smithsonian Publications. A brief abstract was given in L. J. 21: 417.]

INVITATIONS FOR CONFERENCE OF 1898.

C. A. NELSON. — As there is no provision on the program, this seems the proper time to call attention to one or two matters. I hold in my hand letters from the Mayor of Atlanta, Ga., from the Young Men's Library, and from two prominent journals of that city, earnestly urging and inviting the American Library Association to hold the meeting for 1898 in that city. As it is not competent for us to say now where the meeting for 1898 will be held, I shall put these communications in the hands of the Executive Board for 1897.

I also am the bearer of a cordial invitation from Mr. George H. Baker, librarian of Columbia University, to meet in New York City in 1898. We then expect to be fully settled in our new library on Morningside Heights, and that will be but one of the attractions which New York City can offer to the A. L. A. We think that it is about time that the Association met again in New York. I may be anticipating the action of the Executive Board for next year, but I throw it out as a warning not to do it, for we want them in 1898.

C. H. GOULD presented an invitation from Montreal for 1898.

Pres. J. C. DANA. — Invitations have also been received from the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, and from the city of Indianapolis, to hold the meeting of the Association in either one of those places in 1898.

DIGEST OF LIBRARY LAWS.

Pres. J. C. DANA. — I would like to know if anybody is making a digest of the library laws in the United States.

W. R. EASTMAN. — Mr. Harrison has made such a digest but it is not yet published.

Miss M. S. CUTLER. — It is not completed. Mr. Harrison has it in preparation.

Pres. J. C. DANA. — I would like to ask if a digest which one of my assistants is compiling, which is a very perfect digest and outline of the library laws of the several states, with probably the addition of the library commissioners, and names of people to whom one could write in the several states for library information, stands in the way at all of the publication of Mr. Harrison's digest, or is this entirely unnecessary in view of his digest?

R. G. THWAITES. — Miss Stearns has prepared for the Wisconsin Free Library Commission a purely popular digest of the existing statutes in various states.

Miss L. E. STEARNS. — That includes only the laws relating to the different library commissions.

Pres. DANA. — Will that be available for distribution?

Miss STEARNS. — I will be very glad to send it to all who apply. It will be printed in the report of the Wisconsin Library Commission.

Mr. THWAITES. — The forthcoming report of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, which will contain a good deal of miscellaneous material pertaining to the conduct of small libraries, will be sent to the leading libraries of the country. The edition is small. If those who wish it will send their names to Miss L. E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, they will doubtless receive copies so long as the stock holds out.

W. R. EASTMAN. — The annual report issued by the Regents in Albany has a summary of the library legislation of that year. Sometimes it is a year behind, but when requests come to us to Albany we send what we have.

Pres. DANA. — This question has brought out information which it has not been easy for me to get hold of.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — The duty of the committee on resolutions this year was a very simple one. Usually there is a great mass of resolutions referred to the committee which it has to sift over, consider and revise, etc. This time the sole duty of the committee was the pleasant one of putting in form a vote of thanks for the courtesies received in Cleveland. We submit as our report the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of the American Library Association are due and are heartily tendered to the Rowfant Club for its unique

entertainment ; to Mr. Charles F. Olney for his hospitable welcome to his art gallery ; to the local Committee of Arrangements for careful forethought, efficient service, and numerous courtesies ; and to the Cleveland newspapers for the full and accurate reports of the proceedings which they have given in their columns.

F. M. CRUNDEN,
THERESA WEST,
BERNARD C. STEINER."

This report was accepted and the resolution was adopted unanimously by a rising vote.

H. J. CARR.—Almost every year of our conference meeting has been marked by some event that we consider memorable. I have been waiting and waiting to hear a word about the Accumulative index to periodicals. I suppose, as you are all aware, that it owes almost its entire being to Mr. Brett. I wish to commend it to the attention of you all, and hope you will give it your hearty support both by word of encouragement and by personal aid in the shape of subscriptions.

The President announced that ballots for officers might be cast as the members left the hall, and the result would be announced at the banquet at the Hollenden in the evening.

Adjourned.

The members, after voting, gathered in a group in front of the building and a photograph was taken, a reproduction of which, slightly reduced in size, was given in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for September.

The afternoon of Friday was given up to the trolley ride which was postponed from Thursday on account of the storm. The ride and the banquet in the evening, together with the reception which preceded the latter, are described by those who have written up the "Social Side" of the Conference.

The tellers of the election reported the result of the balloting, as follows :

President.—William H. Brett, 207 ; (scattering, 36).

Vice-Presidents.—H. L. Elmendorf, 164 ; Hannah P. James, 150 ; James K. Hosmer, 119 ; (three others, 111, 108, and 74 respectively ; scattering, 3).

Secretary.—Rutherford P. Hayes, 164 ; (one other, 74, scattering, 13).

Treasurer.—George W. Cole, 115 ; (two others, 75 and 57 respectively).

A. L. A. Council.—John C. Dana, 192 ; Melvil Dewey, 172 ; Mary W. Plummer, 140 ; Henry J. Carr, 137 ; (four others, 47, 64, 79, and 128 respectively).

Trustee of Endowment Fund.—John C. Hutchins, 133 ; (two others, 50 and 65 respectively ; scattering, 1).

The names of those elected were announced at the banquet, and the president elect was made the recipient of a beautiful basket of roses, presented by Judge Hutchins, who presided at the dinner, on behalf of Mr. Brett's many friends and well-wishers.

EIGHTH SESSION.

(GRAND HOTEL, MACKINAW, TUESDAY EVENING,
SEPTEMBER 8.)

Association called to order by the president at 8 p.m.

Mr. Reuben G. Thwaites read his paper on

THE STORY OF MACKINAC.

(See p. 71.)

Miss M. E. Ahern presented to the retiring president a slight token of the esteem and sweet favor which he had found in the hearts of those over whom he so well presided during the Conference.

THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

presented the following additional report :

The American Library Association desires to present to the Detroit Public Library and to Mr. Henry M. Utley, assurance of its thorough appreciation of the delightful opportunity offered by them for seeing the beautiful City of the Straits ; to the Grande Pointe Club for its graceful hospitality ; and to its president, Mr. F. B. Dickerson, for his cordial welcome.

F. M. CRUNDEN,
THERESA WEST,
BERNARD C. STEINER,

which was unanimously accepted and adopted.

The president then declared the Conference adjourned *sine die*.

C: ALEX. NELSON,

Recorder.

NECROLOGY.

ALLAN, MISS JESSIE (registration no. 534), librarian of the Omaha Public Library, Omaha, Nebraska, died on September 12, 1895, of tuberculosis, with which she was attacked during November of the World's Fair year.

Miss Allan was born in Omaha, December 15, 1861. She was connected with the Omaha Public Library for the last fourteen years of her life; ten years as librarian.

Among librarians she had a national reputation as a successful administrator and an effective worker in every way. She became a member of the American Library Association in 1886 at the Buffalo Conference, where she was cordially welcomed, and continued a member to the time of her death. She always took an active interest in the affairs of the Association, and her opinion on matters of library economy or matters of the Association's policy was always highly considered. She served on several committees, and at the time of her demise was a member of the Endowment Committee.

She was prominent in the movement to extend the free public library idea in her own state, and at the time of her death was second vice-president of the Nebraska State Library Association. She was most successful in the administration of the library of which she had charge, had been largely instrumental in working up a public sentiment in favor of the new library building, and, before her death, saw her plans for that building carried to completion. She was devoted to her work and untiring in her zeal in it. Those who knew her best must always feel that her end was unduly hastened by her refusal to put her own personal physical welfare before the affairs of the institution of which she had charge.

The following resolution, spread upon the minutes of the library board, under which Miss Allan served so long and faithfully, is a concise statement of the work which Miss Allan accomplished. The resolution was fortunately adopted in time for presentation to Miss Allan a few days before her death:

"The directors of the Omaha Public Library, for themselves and the reading public of Omaha, desire to express to Miss Jessie Allan their sincere appreciation of her long, faithful,

and efficient service as librarian. The best growth of the library has been coincident with Miss Allan's management, and in large measure due to her personal effort. She brought to the work of librarian a natural aptitude, but over and above that she showed a peculiar alertness to the needs of the reading public and a zeal in meeting them that more than anything else established the present popularity of the library."

MACKY, MISS BESSIE RUTHERFORD (registration no. 959), assistant librarian and instructor in the library class at the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, died at her home in Philadelphia on April 4, 1896. Miss Macky, who had been connected with the Institute since September, 1892, was a graduate of Wellesley College, B. A. 1889, and of the N. Y. State Library School, B. L. S. 1892. She had many friends in the A. L. A. and the Pennsylvania Library Club, and her personal charm and particular fitness for library work make her loss especially sad. The following resolutions were adopted by the faculty of the Institute, at a meeting on April 11, in her memory:

"That in the death of Miss Macky the Institute has lost an able officer and an instructor of rare personal and mental endowments.

"Miss Macky brought to the discharge of her duties, both as assistant librarian and as instructor of the library class in library economy and in English literature, the thorough equipment of a collegiate and professional training united with extraordinary talent and with that singular modesty which is the grace of one who gives to the daily work of life the best efforts of mind and soul and stops not to count the value of the gift.

"As an advocate and a product of the higher education of women, Miss Macky was a striking example of the fulfilment of the supreme purpose of that education—namely, the capacity for spiritual enjoyment and for unselfish creative activity.

"That while we sorrow for this young life, cut off in the beginning of a career of great promise, we yet rejoice that the quickening influence of her bright clear spirit has touched our lives and that it remains to all who have been privi-

leged to know her both a blessing and an inspiration."—*Library journal*.

WOODWARD, ROBERT C. (registration no. 414), librarian of the Springfield (O.) Public Library, died suddenly on July 24, 1896, at his home in Springfield. Mr. Woodward had been librarian of the Warder Library for nineteen years, and built it up from a small and chaotic collection to one of the best organized and most useful libraries in Ohio. He was a native of Springfield, where he was born in 1829, and studied at the

Ohio Conference High School and at Wittenberg College. He went into the printing business, was later a travelling salesman, and from 1859 to 1861 conducted a book-store in Springfield. Later he engaged in the book business in Lima, Ill., and in 1869 returned to Springfield and again entered the bookselling and printing business. In 1877 he was appointed city librarian. Mr. Woodward had been a member of the American Library Association since 1882.—*Library journal*.

MEETINGS OF TRUSTEES' SECTION.

A MEETING of the Trustees' Section was held at the Hollenden House on Thursday, Sept. 3, 1896, immediately after the morning session of the Association.

Mr. Chas. C. Soule, trustee of the Public Library, Brookline, Mass., occupied the chair. Rev. Henry F. Jenks, trustee of the Public Library, Canton, Mass., was chosen secretary.

It was voted to proceed to the election of a permanent chairman of the Trustees' Section, and Mr. Geo. A. Macbeth, of Pittsburg, Penn., was chosen.

Mr. Macbeth inquired what it was desirable for this Section to do, and the chairman replied that it was for this meeting to determine.

It was *Voted*: That the permanent secretary of this Section be appointed by the permanent chairman.

On motion of Mr. Jenks it was *Voted*: That an executive committee of seven be chosen, to be selected from different sections of the country.

On motion of Miss West it was *Voted*: That a committee be appointed by the chair to provide for a fuller organization of this Section and report their action, with nominations for an executive or advisory committee, at a meeting to be held this evening at 7:30 p.m.

The chair appointed Miss West, Mr. Jenks, and Mr. Reuben G. Thwaites as this committee.

It was *Voted*: That the chairman of this meeting and the permanent chairman elect be also members of this committee.

Adjourned to 7:30 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m. the Section reassembled. Mr. Macbeth occupied the chair.

The secretary presented the following report

from the committee appointed at the forenoon session.

The committee would suggest to the officers elected by this Section for the ensuing year the following line of action:

1. That endeavors be made to increase the Endowment Fund.
2. That efforts be made to increase the interest of trustees in the American Library Association, so that
3. They shall be induced to have their libraries become members of the Association, and be represented at its annual sessions by some of the members of their own boards, as well as by some of the library officials sent as delegates and at the expense of the libraries.
4. That an effort be made to interest trustees in the various library journals, and to that end
5. The editors of those journals be urged to devote more space to discussion of matters specially interesting to trustees, such as questions of administration, architecture, means of securing gifts; and should furnish more items of news respecting these points.
6. To prepare a program of special interest to trustees for the meeting of this Section next year.
7. And to stimulate efforts to secure a larger attendance of trustees at the next Conference.
8. That the advisory committee to be elected formulate a plan of future action for this Conference.

The committee nominated for advisory committee Rev. Jas. De Normandie, trustee of the Boston Public Library; Hon. John Bigelow, of the New York Library; Dr. Victor Rosewater, regent of State University and trustee of Omaha Public Library, Nebraska; Hon. James

H. Stout, of Menomonie, Wis.; O. L. Whitelaw, trustee of Public Library, St. Louis; and suggested that the remaining vacancies be filled by selections from Chicago and Baltimore, or Washington.

The report of the committee was accepted and adopted.

The chairman stated that he would appoint Mr. F. H. Anderson, of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, permanent secretary of this Section.

It was *Voted*:—That the vacancies in the advisory committee be filled by the chairman.

Adjourned.

HENRY F. JENKS, *Secretary*.

The chairman subsequently reported that Mr. Bigelow, of New York, had declined on account of ill-health, and nobody has been put in his place. No one has been selected in Baltimore, and no one in Chicago.

There were present at one or both meetings:

Brandegge, John E., Utica, New York.
Browning, Eliza G., Indianapolis.
Conover, Frank, Dayton, Ohio.
Garfield, Hon. James R., Cleveland, Ohio.
Green, Samuel Swett, Worcester, Mass.
Hayes, Rutherford P., Columbus, Ohio.

Hewins, Miss Caroline M., Sec. Ct. Pub. Lib. Com.

Hoag, F. J., Toledo, Ohio.

Hoagland, Miss Merica, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Howell, J. E., Newark, New Jersey.

Hutchins, F. A., Pub. Lib. Com., Baraboo, Wisconsin.

Jenks, Rev. Henry F., Canton, Massachusetts.
Johnson, Wm., Newark, New Jersey.

Jones, Gardner M., Salem, Mass.

Jones, Miss Mary L., Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

Macbeth, Geo. A., Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Montgomery, Thomas L., Philadelphia, Penn.

Soule, Charles C., Brookline, Mass.

Stearns, Miss L. E., Sec. Wisconsin Lib. Com., Milwaukee, Wis.

Stout, Hon. J. H., Menomonie, Wis.

Thomson, John, F. L. Philadelphia.

Thompson, John W., Evanston, Illinois.

Thompson, Leonard, Woburn, Mass.

Thwaites, Reuben G., Madison, Wis.

Weaver, Mrs. H. M., Mansfield, Ohio.

Weeks, Mrs. Anna R., Winnetka, Ill.

West, Theresa, Milwaukee, Wis.

Whittier, J. H., Sec. N. H. Lib. Com., East Rochester, New Hampshire.

Wright, B. F., St. Paul, Minn.

THE COLLEGE LIBRARY SECTION.

TWENTY-SIX members of the College Section met in the parlor of The Hollenden at 12 o'clock on Thursday, September 3, and were called to order by Mr. C. W. Andrews.

On motion, W. I. Fletcher was chosen chairman and C. A. Nelson secretary.

Dr. Cyrus Adler made some interesting statements concerning the publication abroad of catalog cards in several departments of science. He referred especially to the scheme of the Bibliographical Bureau at Zürich to issue cards for zoölogical literature. Dr. Field is at the head, assisted by Dr. Moebius, and a complete classified index to the zoölogical literature of the year will be issued at a cost of \$16. The plan was officially adopted by the last International Congress of Zoölogists held at Leyden. He also referred to the catalog of the Royal Society, which required 300 drawers, each one foot in depth, to hold the titles.

Mr. Fletcher spoke of the subject index which

the Royal Society proposes to make, and after some explanations the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Section has learned with great satisfaction that the Council of the Royal Society proposes to add to the debt which the scientific world already owes it for its valuable Catalog of scientific papers, by making a subject index to the papers contained therein.

Dr. Adler suggested that a paper should be brought before the Association each year treating of some topic of special interest to college and reference libraries.

Mr. Nelson expressed the opinion that unless some steps were taken in this direction the interest of the larger and more important college and reference libraries in the annual meetings of the Association would be lost.

Mr. A. H. Hopkins, Dr. Adler, and others took part in a brief discussion on scientific lines.

On motion, *Voted*: That the Executive Committee of the A. L. A. be requested to put on the program for the next year one or more papers on subjects of special interest to college and reference libraries.

Voted: That Messrs. Fletcher, Nelson, and Adler be appointed a committee to suggest subjects for these papers.

On motion of Dr. Adler, *Voted*: That the officers of this meeting be made the permanent officers of this Section for the ensuing year.

Adjourned at 12:40.

C: ALEX. NELSON, *Secretary*.

Libraries of the following (22) institutions were represented: Amherst College, Baldwin University, Boston Athenæum, Butler College, Columbia University, Cornell University, Garrett Biblical Institute, Harvard University, Iowa State University, John Crerar Library, McGill University (Montreal), Mass. Institute of Technology, Michigan State Normal School, Normal Schools at Clarion and Millersville (Pa.), Ohio State University, Smithsonian Institution, State Normal School (Ill.), University of Chicago, University of Michigan, University of Nebraska, and Wisconsin Normal Schools.

PUBLISHING SECTION.

THE proceedings of the annual meeting of the Publishing Section, held at the Hollenden Hotel on the evening of September 1, together with those of the meeting of the executive

board, held at Lake Placid, Sept. 7-8, have been published in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for October (21:459).

STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

REPORTS of the meetings of the several State Library Associations, held at Cleveland, have already been printed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, as follows:

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.
(L. J. 21:462.)

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.
(L. J. 21:462.)

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

(L. J. 21:465.)

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

(L. J. 21:465, 506.)

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

(L. J. 21:466.)

THE SOCIAL SIDE.

BY MISS L. E. STEARNS.

TO the weary traveller that arrived at the Hollenden on Tuesday evening, September 1, only to find all room reservations null and void (through no fault of the local committee), and who was stowed away with three others in a room on an inner court; to one who laid her tired head each night on a pillow filled with moth or billiard-balls, on an improvised cot; upon the mind of such a martyr (No. 1266, A. L. A.) as this, was impressed the fact that in point of numbers, at least, the Cleveland Conference was an unqualified success.

This opinion was strongly emphasized at the first social session which was held that evening in the hotel parlors, and which proved a veritable "crush." This preliminary reception was strictly informal, even the reception committee being *incog* to the members in general and not known to each other, but doing yeoman service as a "steering committee." That "auld acquaintance should (not) be forgot" and that many new ones should be made, were the watchwords of the hour — unless one was buttonholed by the representative of the Only Perfect Red,

White, and Blue "Out" and "In" Indicator (limited), from whom an early retirement was the only escape.

The next evening a more formal reception was tendered the delegates by the Rowfant Club. Not having been present at this function, we quote from Miss Haines's report in the September (1896) *LIBRARY JOURNAL*:

"The rooms were attractively decorated with flowers, refreshments were served, and until midnight the club-house was thronged with interested librarians, meeting new and old friends and examining the Club's many treasures of books, etchings, and candlesticks. The Club takes its name from the country seat of the late Frederic Locker Lampson, who is its patron saint, and its object is 'the critical study of books in their various capacities to please the mind of man, and the publication from time to time of privately-printed editions for its members.' Its emblems are the American gopher and the candlestick, and it possesses a varied and interesting candlestick collection, ranging from tiny bronze or silver holders to great six-foot columns for pillars of wax. The annual meeting of the Club is held on Candlemas day, when each member adds a candlestick to the array which now ranges from roof to attic of the club-house."

The session of Thursday evening was not originally planned as a social evening, but the exercises proved most diverting and interesting. The instrument provided as the business of the evening was an innocent-enough appearing list of books for a future A. L. A. Catalog Supple-

ment, but which proved decidedly spicy subjects for gay repartee, etc., etc.

Friday afternoon was devoted to a trolley ride, which included a visit to the Garfield monument, the Western Reserve University Library, where the party was cordially greeted by Dr. Thwing; the Miles Park and Woodlawn Avenue branch libraries, and thence to the hospitable mansion of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Olney, where the members were personally greeted by host and hostess and invited into their beautiful private art gallery. After inspecting the works of art, carving, etc., Mr. Larned, in the absence of the president, tendered thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Olney for their gracious and kindly hospitality. After singing "America," accompanied by Mr. Olney on the pianoforte, and receiving the compliment from him that "Librarians could sing as well as care for books," the party wended thier way back to the Hollenden to prepare for the evening's banquet.

The banquet was most elaborate, and was attended by several hundred persons. Music enlivened the occasion until the time for toasts, which were responded to by Dr. Thwing, Mr. R. G. Thwaites, and Rev. Dr. Sprecker. Owing to the lateness of the hour, Judge Hutchins, toastmaster, was obliged to cut short the time for speech-making, to enable the post-conference party to catch the midnight boat for Detroit. Then "there was hurrying in hot haste," quick transformation scenes, a rush for cabs and carriages, and the Cleveland Conference was a thing of the past.

SOME MEMORIES OF THE LIBRARY CONFERENCE, HELD IN CLEVELAND, OHIO, SEPT. 1-4, 1896.

BY MISS ANNE WALLACE.

HAVING been requested by the Recorder to furnish for the official proceedings an account of the social side of the Library Conference held at Cleveland as seen by a new member, I hesitated to comply, as this was the only feature of the meeting that I had failed to take advantage of. Consequently I took the liberty of changing the assignment, and giving to the readers of the *JOURNAL* a few impressions that I thought might be of interest, coming from one whose point of view was at least geographically differ-

ent, and more especially because they represent the views of a new-comer—one who was in touch with library ideas and economies, but whose enthusiasm was not dulled by previous meetings, whose ear was not wearied by reiteration of shelf-worn theories that must always exist in so large a gathering, continually augmented by the addition of youth and inexperience.

How fortunate was I, then, in this my first attendance to find such a representative meeting,

as I have since been assured this was, not only as to members, but in the serious attention given to the business on hand. Such indeed was the conference held at Cleveland, now rapidly becoming a memory, and ticketed in our minds as the 18th annual meeting of the American Library Association.

The wind was blowing fresh from the lake as I climbed the hill above the station, and stood gazing at the beautiful inland sea, after a long and dusty journey from my Southern home.

It was with a great sense of responsibility and no little feeling of lonesomeness that I gripped my satchel and entered the rotunda of the Hollenden House, the headquarters of the Association. Fortunately I fell into the hands of those librarians whom I had had the honor of entertaining during the Cotton States and International Exposition at Atlanta, in 1895. These public-spirited women had responded generously to my call for help and prepared papers on library economies for the Conference of Women Librarians, held at that time in Atlanta.

The kindness and courtesies I experienced at the hands of these sister librarians will always be a pleasant obligation.

The informal gathering in the parlors and corridors of the Hollenden on that first evening was an auspicious beginning. It was a noticeable group of men and women. It is impossible to individualize, when praise is due to all for the earnest purpose and ability which have raised the profession from the former low level of clerical inefficiency, and produced from its ranks thought-leaders of the century.

It was a great social as well as professional pleasure to meet on friendly terms the prominent librarians of the country, whose names had long been familiar to me through the pages of the *JOURNAL*, or through the mediums of their own productions.

It seems flippant to have joked and laughed with the author of "History for ready reference and topical reading," that awkwardly-christened but indispensable encyclopædia of history, which has become the delight of the reading public, the best friend of the business man, and a god-send to the overtaxed librarians of the country.

It is very helpful to feel one's self in touch with the great intellectual products of one's generation, and no matter how busy I am, I

never fail to smile when my eye rests on those "five imperial volumes."

I counted it quite an honor to lunch with the gentleman, a well-thumbed copy of whose "Public libraries of America" now lies on my desk.

And then, again, the memory of having danced with the man who originated and perfected that complete and wonderful device known as "Cutter's Rules for making a dictionary catalog," which represents in the most complete and compact form possible the American system of cataloging!

In recalling the incidents of the busy days that followed, the clearest impression made on my mind was the immense amount of work accomplished by such a large and mixed conference. It evidenced the good work of the executive committee and the interest of all present. So well had the program been prepared that not a dull or uninteresting hour was passed. Nowhere have I seen a more representative body. The proceedings were free from any sectional feeling, devoid of mannerisms, characterized by simple and business-like methods, and running through the whole was a vein of witticism and good-humor that lent a charm to the driest of detail. Nothing shows the growth of the Library Association so much as the devotion to the ethics of the profession and the absence of all controversy over administrative policies that used to absorb the time of the annual meetings. This work, as I take it, can best be handled at the meetings of the state associations.

Mr. Dana's opening remarks, unlike the usual optimistic report of retiring officers, dwelt on the seamy side of the public library, and so aptly did he cite the dark and discouraging side of the question, that I found myself aggrieved, feeling that he had singled out my own weak points. It was not long, however, before I discovered that the restive feeling was general, and that the depressing reaction that comes to all philanthropic movements, even in moments of certain success, is peculiar to no section but exists wherever man's shortcomings are to be found. As if to counteract this pessimistic view, Mr. Larned's scholarly paper was one that would have pleased the most critical of audiences; it reached far out into the world of thought and action, and was tonic in its effect; lifting one above the petty worries, and broadening one's horizon very perceptibly.

The next three or four days were so crowded with work it seemed that the social feature was no feature at all. An all-day attendance on a meeting where every moment meant the acquisition of something of interest, where the attention was concentrated for hours together, left one pretty tired and indifferent to social amenities.

But the good people of Cleveland, through their local committee, had other things in store for us, so after a brisk walk out beautiful Euclid avenue, and a dinner with congenial company, we gathered in the cosey quarters of the Rowfant Club, with its interesting collection of books and curios. A pleasant evening was passed in social intercourse, and in meeting new and renewing old acquaintances.

Perhaps the most enjoyable of all the outings planned for our pleasure was the trolley party, which took us through the streets of this Western city, with its miles of boulevards, beautiful residences, and well-kept lawns, with their brilliant parterres of vivid coloring. It seems that Nature has compensated these Northern climes, with their short summers, by intensifying the greens and reds of its gorgeous vegetation.

The cemetery, with its imposing mausoleum, erected in memory of President Garfield, crowns a noble hill, from whose summit one gets a fine view of the city, spread fan-like on the borders of Lake Erie. The day was perfect, the sky cloudless. As far as the eye could reach, with the blue waters of the lake for background, the fair city lay bathed in the golden afternoon sunshine, and the great white sail in the far distance looked indeed like "a painted ship upon a painted ocean."

On our return trip we were entertained informally at the delightful home of Mrs. Sarah K. Bolton, and later at the art gallery of Mr. Olney.

It was due to the fresh air and invigorating effect of the afternoon ride that the evening session was characterized by a crispness and penetration equal to the lake breezes. It seems to me now, as I recall that evening through the perspective of the intervening months, that no brighter or cleverer lot of people ever met to discuss the fitness or unfitness of books. Miss Cutler surely deserves credit for originating so unique an evening as was that spent in considering the Supplement of the

A. L. A. Catalog. The discussion of the books on scientific and sociological subjects was confined to a well-bred contest between specialists. As history, biography, and juveniles were reached, the talk became more general, and when fiction was introduced it was the signal for epigrammatic pyrotechnics unequalled in library conferences. "A lady of quality" was handled without gloves, and in a manner calculated to convince its author, "the laureate of the nursery," that the long-suffering librarian will turn. "The damnation of Theron Ware" also came under the ban.

The concluding event of the Cleveland Conference was the annual banquet, which was spread in the ornate dining-room of the Hollenden Hotel.

Plates were laid for five hundred guests, and the scene presented was beautiful in the extreme. Amid a profusion of gorgeous flowers, and with electric lights, music, and laughter, the guests were seated about the tables, made brilliant with the whiteness of the linen and the vivid red of the carnations scattered on their surface.

It was an inspiring scene. The Pompeian red of the dining-room was reflected in the many mirrors, the draperies and color effects were Eastern in their gorgeousness. It was a contented crowd that sat down to the good things provided by the excellent cuisine, and by a market unrivalled for variety and quality. Many congenial coteries were formed about the board, and the happy nothings, quick repartee, and sparkling epigrams showed that these sedate pedants of the library world can, at will, throw off the serious affairs of life and enjoy "cakes and ale" with a light heart. One incident was a particularly happy one to me. When the banquet had reached its height, when each one was sufficiently impressed with the desirableness of his neighbor, when a spirit of comradeship and cordiality had been established, and each one was vying with the other in matters of friendly attention, there was a lull in the conversation, and then the orchestra struck up "Dixie." Can you appreciate my emotions! Never before had the inspiring old strains thrilled me as they did then, way off in this strange country. Without a moment's hesitation I clapped my hands, and out of sympathy with the Southern girl, my neighbors took it up, and as the music swelled, right royally did applause greet the familiar song.

The kindness and cordiality with which my enthusiasm was received was characteristic of the meeting, a generous and non-sectional assembly, applauding all true feeling, and only discountenancing the sham and the unreal.

Of the subsequent break-up, before the post-prandial Depews had had the opportunity to get off the good things they had booked for the occasion, the unceremonious leave-taking of the

hospitable city, the checking of baggage, the hurried trip to the boat, it is unnecessary to speak. The delightful glimpse of Detroit and the lakes, the very good dinner (and its memories) served at the charming little club-house way up on the flat, and the remainder of the post-conference trip have all been told of by a better pen than mine, and form another story.

ATLANTA, GA.

THE POST-CONFERENCE.

BY HELEN E. HAINES.

WHEN it came every one was thoroughly ready for it. Three days of steady attention to business, with sessions packed one on top of another and few intervals for refreshments, made the prospect of playtime doubly welcome. "Ah," thought the weary ones, "we will loaf and invite our souls as we sail through the placid lakes and wander o'er the sunny shores." How they did it, it is the purpose of this chronicle faithfully to set forth, and if the Loafing Section of the A. L. A. Post-Conference seems to be overlooked, it should be remembered that this record is confined to what occurred, and not to what it was thought would occur.

The post-conference, then, entered into life at midnight of Friday, Sept. 4, and for the first few hours of its existence it made things exceedingly lively for some five-score people. The program simply stated—"Friday, Sept. 4, 8 p.m.—Annual dinner; followed by departure at midnight for Detroit." As, however, the annual dinner was not cut short until after 11 o'clock, it will be seen that departure at midnight was not so simple as it looked. For an hour or more the Hollenden was the scene of distracted farewells, lightning-change performances, frantic strapping of trunks, and pathetic appeals to porters and expressmen. Even after the party was safely at the steamer, with state-rooms secured, a large assembly waited anxiously through a fast-speeding hour, and, like the Roman ghosts, did squeak and gibber on the Cleveland wharf in search of luggage. At last all things were decently in order, and the stragglers retired to sleep soundly through the too-short hours, unaware even in dreams that they were passing without proper emotion the

historic spot where, under Perry, we met the enemy and they were ours.

Breakfast at Detroit, according to the itinerary, was "at individual expense." But the itinerary-makers had not counted on the hospitality of Detroit hosts, and pleasant breakfast parties were the first order of the day. Then gradually the party found its collective way to the Public Library, where the most cordial of welcomes awaited it. The whole library staff seemed to have resolved itself into a reception committee, and the visitors were piloted through the entire building, where they found much to examine and admire. The children's room, a light, pleasant apartment in the basement, with low open shelves, plenty of magazines, reading-tables and chairs, was a centre of interest. So, too, was the school library room, where were the boxes in which the library's school collections make their journeys to and fro. The new reference-room on the second floor was admired, with its attractive oak cases and handsome fittings, and both the old building and its new annex were so thoroughly explored, from the alcoves of the great delivery-room to the bindery and newspaper store-rooms in the basement, that by 11 o'clock most of the visitors were quite willing to settle themselves comfortably in convenient chairs and await the second act in the day's program.

This was a direct plagiarism from the repertoire of the Greatest Show on Earth, consisting, as it did, in a Monster Chariot-Ride of some two hours' duration. Eleven o'clock was the hour set for the performance, but with the varied methods of time-keeping in vogue—for the visitors followed their own sweet will as to Eastern or Central standards, and the local

time, like Hood's sarsaparilla, was peculiar to itself—it is safe to say only that in good season the chariots ranged themselves about the park-like square on which the library stands. There were 14 in all, seven of them large 'busses whose coveted roof-seats were promptly captured by the mountaineers of the party. That morning's drive is one of the most delightful memories of the trip, and Detroit will henceforth have a warm spot in every A. L. A. heart. The morning was beautiful, though at the end a moment's sprinkle added variety, and as the triumphal procession wound through the broad streets, lined with attractive homes, overhung by stately trees and interlaced with charming parks, the beanfields of Boston, the cañons of Chicago, and the maelstroms of New York seemed murky and melancholy compared with this delightful city, whose cheerful population improve the shining hours in cycling on multitudinous wheels along wide and noiseless avenues.

From the business and residence districts the procession turned aside into the outskirts of the city, and thence, across the bridge and over the clear green waters of the lake, entered Belle Isle, the loveliest of island parks. Here they were whirled past the gay club-houses and the pretty Casino, through winding roads, now along the margin of the lake, now half-hidden in a tangled woodland, then back past the more frequented region of the menagerie and deer park to the Casino, where a bounteous lunch was found awaiting them. It did not wait long; the busy morning, the sunshine, and fresh air proved capital appetizers, and the lavish array of "cold victuals" was attacked with more energy than had been awakened by the most elaborate *menus* of the Hollenden.

After luncheon the trip to the pier—whence the steamer was to carry the party to Grande Pointe Club-house—was next in order. Some preferred the park carriages as means to this end, but the majority set out for the mile-and-a-half walk, eager to explore as closely as possible the beauties of Belle Isle. Of course, the menagerie could not be neglected, and the A. L. A. Natural History Section held an interesting session on bears, monkeys, and small deer, when the Belle Isle live-stock received proper Dewey classification, with the exception of one small woolly creature that obstinately refused to un-

roll itself, and was finally classified as "smelly, and nothing else."

The walk through the park was not devoid of a pleasant element of uncertainty. No one was really sure of the route; still less was any one sure of the time. Every one knew that the steamer was due at three o'clock, but each watch kept different time and no one knew whether the steamer time was Central or local. In the end some of the party took a short-cut, the rest kept to the principle of "follow my leader," and all arrived at the wharf, after many misgivings, to find that the steamer was behind time and they had about an hour to wait. The waiting was enlivened by an interesting display of thunder, lightning, and rain, but luckily the steamer arrived in time to save a general drenching. The far-sighted people who had wraps and umbrellas kept dry and conceited; some of those who had neither found comfortable shelter under the wharf, where reserved seats on a pine board were at a premium and, *à la* Mikado—

They sate in solemn silence 'neath a deep, dark dock,
On a soft and muddy lake shore, in a rather dampish
flock,
Awaiting the sensation of a short, sharp shock
From a lively bolt of lightning a'striking them a knock.

The lightning was considerate, however, and before the rain had settled down to business the party was aboard the steamer and gliding over the tossing whitecaps of Lake St. Clair. Damp as it was, few sought the cabin; most stayed on deck and admired the scenery, or as much of it as rain and mist left visible. And then the rain ceased, the clouds dispersed, the sun returned to his own again, and the wide inland ocean was arched by a glorious rainbow, perfect, spanning the whole lake, smiling the storm away, and reflecting a myriad rosy ripples. It was with the bow of promise still shining fair above that the long, green meadow-strips of the St. Clair flats first revealed themselves—"broad, green, unmarsh-like marshes, like a prairie dropped down on the bosom of a beautiful rushing sea." The steamer made its way through a wide central channel, the St. Clair flats canal, bordered on either side by what seemed a single strip of meadowland and what was a literal Venice—a double row of small green islands, built on or strengthened by sturdy piles, connected and separated by innumerable grass-girt channels and waterways.

Here were the summer-homes of the dwellers in Detroit, each house its own island fortress, with its moat of running water; here were pleasant club-houses and large hotels — a veritable lake-dwellers' country, where the only highways were the intersecting channels and the wide expanse of the lake. Then there were long stretches of reed-meadows as yet uninvaded by the summer guest — wide green marshes of swaying grasses that seemed to rise direct from the waves. At one and another of the island stations the steamer left its quota of passengers, and by the time Grande Pointe was reached darkness had fallen and Little Venice was perceptible only as a broken double line of twinkling lights, tremblingly reflected in the dark waters.

It was a damp but cheerful crowd that invaded the hospitable club-house, where a bright open fire gave a grateful welcome, and where the long dining-room was soon filled with an appreciative assembly discussing the "dinner tendered the American Library Association" by the Club. Then came a social session in the Club parlors, when the president of the Club made a short address of welcome and when those who were to have been the speech-makers of the night before disposed of their "left-overs" with brilliant success. Mr. Utley was chairman, and one by one the veteran storytellers of the Association had their innings and added to their laurels. Dr. Hosmer was one of the first called upon, and he presented to the A. L. A. the following contribution to Minneapolis folk-lore:

"You are aware," he said, "ladies and gentlemen, that I come from Minneapolis, and that opposite that great city stands the little burg of St. Paul. The difference between these two places I shall illustrate by this true story:

"There was once a Minneapolis frog and there was also a St. Paul frog. One day, through some inadvertence, each frog found himself suddenly immersed in a can of milk.

"'Oh dear, oh dear, I shall drown!' wailed the St. Paul frog.

"'Hustle, hustle!' answered the Minneapolis frog.

"'I shall drown! Dear, dear, I shall drown!' came again from the St. Paul frog.

"'Hustle! Hustle!' was the response of the Minneapolis frog.

"'I shall drown, oh I shall drown!' came from the can of the St. Paul frog.

"'Hustle! Hustle!' was the answer of Minneapolis.

"Then there was silence, save that from the can of the Minneapolis frog came constantly a faint but steady splashing.

"In the morning appeared the milkman and looked into the cans. He turned first to the can in which the St. Paul frog had fallen. He saw its pallid corpse floating in a milky grave. He turned to the other can. The Minneapolis frog, floating peacefully upon a pat of butter, gazed up at him and winked."

Of the touching tales told by Mr. Green, Mr. Thwaites, Mr. Hill, Mr. Cutter, and Mr. Crunden time and space permit no record, though surely the proceedings of that social session deserve to be spread upon the minutes. Then followed dancing, general conversation, and a visit to the club boat-house. But gradually evening waned into night. At midnight the dancing stopped and the proprieties of Sunday morning were recognized by the formation of a class for the study of Bible conundrums, the members of which carried on their researches with commendable and infectious enthusiasm. But despite efforts to be wakeful, the wee sma' hours were *not* winged. Gradually those whose post-conference ended here retired to their rooms; some of the intending pilgrims followed their example and sought an hour's sleep; most of the others slowly gave up the battle and disposed themselves in graceful chrysalis attitudes upon convenient chairs; while the few who watched kept vigil with pathetic solemnity. It was not until three o'clock in the morning that the hoarse whistle of the *City of Mackinaw* was the signal for the gathering of the clans, dazed and drowsy, and for a general exodus to the steamer, where at last, after a weary wait for luggage, the blessedness of bed found deep and general appreciation.

For Sunday the log-book reads: sky, water, wind, and waves — and undoubtedly a goodly majority of the party would dwell with special emphasis on the last item. It may here be said that officially the trip was not a rough one; unofficial opinions differ. At any rate, the land-lubbers felt that they were being rapidly initiated into the delights of a life on the ocean wave, and even the experienced mariners needed their sea-legs when it came to a constitu-

tional around the upper deck. Early in the afternoon the steamer entered the broad expanse of Saginaw Bay, where the separate and combined effects of a "pitch" and a "roll" were presented for scientific discussion. Here for a while, with the aid of the mist, no land was visible, and those who chose could make-believe at ocean voyaging. In some respects there was no make-believe about it. One after another the pilgrims, pale and stern of mien, sought the seclusion of their state-rooms, until hardly a baker's dozen were left to breast the sweep of the wind, drink in the fresh, saltless air, and commiserate, with a fine pharisaical flavor, the weakness of their fellow-mortals. In the end it turned out that most of the party had retired "only for a nap," and that there had been a strikingly unanimous desire to make up for lost sleep. But Saginaw Bay was at last left behind, and gradually the slumberers emerged, pale and wan, perhaps, but smiling, and not averse to suggestions of supper.

It was dusk when three warning blasts announced that Alpena was reached, and all hands prepared to go ashore and "do" the town, for here there was a stay of forty minutes. Evidently the Sunday night visit of the steamer is the one event in life at this Michigan metropolis, for the wharf, the adjacent piles of lumber, and the surrounding territory were all black with a rejoicing multitude, which was picturesque to look at, but made those who struggled through it appreciate practically the simile of the camel and the needle's eye. Then came the tour of Alpena, a straggling, unhappy-looking little city, in the throes of a double revival by the regular and irregular branches of the Salvation Army. To show the breadth of library sentiment, one party of the visitors first attended the street-corner meeting of the original Salvationists, then spent five minutes at the Congregational church service, and topped off with the Volunteers' prayer-meeting in a barren little school-house. There is a public library at Alpena, but it was visible only to the eye of faith, through locked doors. The return followed, through unfamiliar streets, to the steamer, where the Newsboys' Band of Detroit, which was a fellow-traveller with the librarians, was soon escorted by the approving populace, who thronged the landing, perched on the adjacent roofs, and gave a noisy farewell to the *City of Mackinaw* as she backed slowly away, casting

the glare of her search-light on the mass of dark forms, and white, upturned faces.

Every one was on deck bright and early Monday morning, when a first landing was made at Mackinac at the unearthly hour of 5:30. Most of the party remained on board, however, breakfasted in comfort, and spent half an hour exploring St. Ignace, whence they were set ashore at Mackinac at half-past eight. Of natural attractions St. Ignace cannot boast, although the lakeward view, with the bold, outward curve of the shore, and the distant, dark masses of Mackinac and its satellite islands is indeed beautiful. A desolate, forlorn little settlement it seemed, to have been a stronghold of French dominion in the Northwest, and one of the earliest of the Jesuit mission stations. The little Catholic church, with its pathetically scant furnishings, its plaster statues, and its large altar-piece of St. Ignatius — "St. Olio," according to one of the persistent would-be guides — was first visited, and then the party wandered up the hillside, past the church-bell, oddly mounted like a grind-stone on a frame platform and manipulated by a wooden handle, and beside the old burying-ground, long since overgrown with straggling bushes, where a few weather-beaten wooden crosses still marked the scarce perceptible mounds. Further on was Marquette's grave, or the spot known as Marquette's grave, for the Jesuit Relater, whose mission in life seemed to be to dissipate "the fogs of romance," proved concisely that the real burying-place was unknown, and that the tomb shown was probably — though that even was not certain — erected on the site of the old Jesuit mission chapel, abandoned in 1706.

The half-hour was soon over, and in a few minutes the steamer was resting under the white cliffs of Mackinac, loveliest of islands, its cedar-clothed walls rising from the white shingle, and washed by rippling waves, through whose crystal clearness the pebbly bottom gleamed distinct.

Here a dozen of the party started at once for the "Soo," to return in time for the final session on Tuesday night. For the others there was a walk along the beach, bordered in places by wave-washed, storm-writhen underbrush, and an upward climb through a woodland of cedars and hemlocks to the great veranda of the Grand Hotel, below which lay spread the

whole marvellous picture of white cliffs, cedar forests, changing waters, green islands, and distant hazy shores.

The delights of that perfect day cannot be compressed into cold type. Some earthly-minded ones, perhaps, had thought of rest and rocking-chairs; but such fancies vanished in the joy of the sunshine, the blue sky, the dancing lake, and the beckoning cedars. Rapidly the party melted away to explore the fairy isle in groups, bevs and couples, by carriage, on foot or awheel, as seemed best to each. How shall we chronicle all they saw and did? The barren title-entry gives no clue to the host of fair memories that are the harvest of those golden days; yet to the title-entry only must this record be confined.

First, then, Fort Mackinac was the general goal. Since 1780 it has crowned the natural fortress of cliffs, rising on the east end of the island, and its white walls have held this gateway to the lakes. Established in the name of his majesty King George, it was taken by American troops in 1796, and in the War of 1812 was recaptured by the British, who abandoned it, removing to the new Fort Holmes, further to the westward; later, by the treaty of Ghent, it was restored to the American Government, and it remained the military stronghold of the district until the present year when, abandoned by the Government, it became a part of the Michigan State Park. Several of the original buildings still remain, and the place was full of interest to the historical enthusiasts, the only regret being that its history was not sufficiently "bluggy." Here was a sally-port, a water-gate, a bastion, and the Enthusiast discovered, with thrills of joy, an oubliette—a dark, delightful cavity, hidden in the wall, and guarded by a heavy door, where doubtless many an unfortunate had found a living grave. This was the Jesuit Relater bidden to stand and admire. "An oubliette," said he, and fixed it with his glittering eye.—"An oubliette? Dear me, no.—It is connected with the drainage system of the fort." And such is the Romance of history? But even he could not disprove the two block-houses, with their rough brick fireplaces, their shuttered windows, their slanting loopholes, and their rusty gun-rests. Here Leatherstocking walked beside us, the loopholes bristled with muskets, arrows whizzed through every opening, and the warwhoop sounded shrilly from below.

From the old fort, across the fields, the observatory was reached, built on the remains of the English Fort Holmes, and from its airy height the lovely world below took on another loveliness. Then Sugarloaf was climbed; the Cave of the Winds, extending for an astonishing distance through the interior of the rock, was explored, and an object lesson in "How to descend a ladder" was given by the Sage from the South. Then on, through winding paths, bordered with daisies, buttercups, and thistles, overrun with silvery juniper, and always bowered in cedars—and suddenly there rose a great stone arch, framing in its embrace the blue sky and the ever-changing lake. For that there are no words but those of the Benedicite, and in the hush of its presence silence was the only eloquence.

There is no time to tell of the spring, gushing from a crevice in the cliffside and reached after a rough downward scramble through the odorous woods, over a treacherous trail half hidden among tall ferns and a tangled network of roots; nor yet of Robinson's Folly, a bold headland jutting out over the lake, where, according to apocryphal romance, an Indian maid pursued one night by an unwelcome suitor plunged into the lake below. And it was unanimously agreed that any man who would pursue any maid at any time over such a road deserved to have his folly handed down to posterity. Near by was Giants' Stairway, sloping steeply to the white beach below, which shone so invitingly in the sunshine that the question of descent was raised. It was soon settled. Two figures were observed upon the strand, and these were hailed by the group above, thus: "Hello! What's down there? Anything worth seeing?" Instantly the answer floated back: "Self and girl—nothing else." The hint was taken and Eden was left unvisited.

The straggling village, too, had to be explored, with the old Catholic church and the John Jacob Astor House, once headquarters of the fur trade, as special landmarks. Here the relic-hunters gathered in the "National Park Bazaar," where dazzling arrays of Indian curios were displayed, ranging from birchbark match-boxes and embroidered slippers to cedarwood napkin-rings, souvenir-spoons, "mustache-cups" decorated with views of Arch Rock in green and blue, and similar aboriginal relics. Here were Indian war-clubs of fresh pine, con-

siderately spotted, in advance, with gore, and — an indispensable part of the garb of every Indian warrior — “gents’ cravats” of rattle-snake-skin, lined with olive-green satin and adorned with a row of rattles as a crowning finish. “Sell them? Indeed we do,” said the custodian of these treasures. “Why, the gentlemen buy lots of them cravats — they’re such *useful* souvenirs.” Literature was there a-plenty — “Anne,” “Castle Nowhere,” “The White Islander,” and “The Island beauty: a romance of Mackinac,” leading the array. “Anne,” we were told, “sells best, but some folks is so ignorant they want to get it in paper covers, and it a copyright book. Why, anybody who knows anything about books knows you can’t get a copyright in paper covers.”

So the day passed, and in the evening the members gathered in the corridors and parlors of the hotel and compared notes, each remaining content that his own exploring tour had been a little superior to his neighbor’s. There was dancing in the Casino, and the undaunted spirits, who had walked, cycled, or climbed indefatigably since breakfast whiled away the hours till midnight in further exercise.

On Tuesday morning most of the party took a steamer trip around the island, spending an hour at St. Ignace, where Father Marquette’s grave was visited. St. Anthony’s Rock was pointed out, the soda-water resources of the village were tested, and the guileless librarians were beautifully buncoed by the native hackmen. Others still clung to their wheels; others again spent the perfect morning in a boating trip to “Boblow,” the poetic Mackinac version of Bois-blanc, one of the many smaller islands of that island region;—

and with it all the wonder grew
When so much had been done, so much remained to do.

In the afternoon another steamer trip was made to Les Cheneaux, barbarized into “The Snows,” an archipelago of some hundred little islets, clustered in a famous fishing ground; but of the piscatorial exploits there performed, this chronicle saith not. Mackinac itself seemed inexhaustible. Skull Cave, Chimney Rock, British Landing, Friendship’s Altar, the spot where stood the house of Anne, all these had their pilgrims; Cupid’s Pathway — which, illogically did *not* lead to Lover’s Leap — was not neglected, nor was Lover’s Lane unfrequented, and who could leave without a visit to the mystic Wish-

ing Well? Some of the explorers found an aerial well of their own. It stood high up upon the western bluff, beyond the Devil’s Kitchen and the flat summit of Pontiac’s Lookout — a windlass well, of two pulley-ropes on which a tin pail journeyed to and fro between the lake beneath and the high bluff above. Promptly the pail was sent upon its downward trip, with fear and trembling was it guided past the tops of the impeding cedars, and when at last it returned, brimming with cold, clear water, it was unanimously agreed that with a wishing well, a fairy spring, and a windlass well, Mackinac possessed, indeed, an unrivalled water-supply.

Late that afternoon the “Soo” party returned, disclaiming all fatigue, sunburned, and bubbling over with enthusiasm. We will let one of them tell of the delights of that not-to-be-forgotten side trip:

THE “SOO” TRIP.*

Leaving Mackinac Island in the morning the day was spent upon the water, the party reaching Sault Ste. Marie in the early evening. The scenery by the way was beautiful, the numerous islands, large and small, reminding the traveller of the stately St. Lawrence, with its thousand isles, while in many places the abrupt and precipitous bluffs of the shore recalled the palisades of the picturesque Hudson. The party domiciled themselves upon the boat for the round trip, somewhat “Rudder Grange” fashion, so were quite independent of the hotels of the village. Upon reaching the town it was still early enough for an inspection of the great locks, now, by reason of the recently constructed additional ones, the largest in the world, and every one was interested in watching the great boats that were in waiting, representing as they did such an important part of the commerce of the world, as they made their way through the narrow passage.

Then came the interesting experience of “shooting the rapids” of the river, a feat which is performed in small open boats, under the management of Indian guides. The foaming waters, the swift descent, the semi-twilight, and the wild cries of the guides, these evidently being considered by them part of the service which they were expected to render, all combined to give to the experience a weird and half unreal character, which did not, however, prevent it from being wholly delightful. A tour of the shops was then in order, the inspection of photographs and curios of various kinds resulting in additions to several individual collections of souvenirs.

After a night upon the boat the early morn-

*By Miss Ella McLoney, librarian Des Moines Public Library.

ing found the tourists abroad for a walk about the quaint town, until warned that the time for starting upon the return trip was at hand. Late afternoon found them again in Mackinac, assuring their friends that, however pleasant the two days upon the island might have been, their delights could not possibly have exceeded those of the northern journey. As one of the number exultantly put it, "We have the combined pleasure of anticipation and possession. We have had the 'Soo' trip, and the beauties of Mackinac are still before us!"

But all things have an end, and at last those two delightful days drew to a close. On Tuesday evening was held the final session of the Conference, fittingly devoted to "The story of Mackinac," told by Mr. Thwaites. It was generally known that Mr. Thwaites spoke from the fullness of personal experience, for had he not sailed in birch canoes with Marquette and Joliet, joined in the boating-songs of the *coureurs de bois*, and lent his authority to the aboriginal councils of the Hurons and the Iroquois? What wonder, then, that he brought the dead past into the living present, and made the Jesuit missionary, the long-haired *voyageur*, the hardy *coureur de bois*, and the subtle savage live again in these their ancient haunts, now invaded by 19th century librarians? Of "The story of Mackinac" there is no need to speak in detail; it is recorded elsewhere in these Proceedings; but its clear and picturesque narrative deepened the mental pictures of the lovely island, and freighted its memory with historic associations as well as with remembered beauties of sky and sea and shore.

Then occurred what was, perhaps, the sweet-

est episode in the history of the A. L. A. Deeply had the Association grieved to note the abysmal gloom wherein their President had been enwrapped since the first sentence of his opening address fell upon the conference. Vainly had they sought to "charm him with smiles and soap," but, Snarklike, he remained unmoved. It came to pass that at last the secret of his melancholy was penetrated by the Lady from Chicago, and now, on behalf of the Association, she presented to him an offering that it was thought might dispel the shadows from his marble brow. It was a five-pound box of Huyler's bon-bons, and it may faithfully be recorded that it proved a prompt and effective gloom-dispeller.

There only remained for the Association to express, in a hearty resolution, its sincere thanks to Mr. Utley and the Detroit Public Library for the delightful welcome accorded them at Detroit, and then the end came, and the 18th Conference of the American Library Association was declared adjourned.

Properly speaking, the post-conference ended here. But it was succeeded by a score of individual post-conferences, of which those concerned have pleasant recollections. Gradually the party dispersed; most departed by Wednesday's steamer for Chicago or New York, some lucky ones remained for a day longer, and a few, luckiest of all, stayed out the week, and, it is rumored, *rested*. But to all the Conference of 1896 was to be henceforth but a memory—a memory of happy days, in pleasant places, with the best of company—the finish and crown of a successful Conference.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER.

ABBREVIATIONS: F., Free; L., Library; Ln., Librarian; P., Public; As., Assistant; R-R., Reading-room.

* Prefixed indicates participation in the Mackinac trip.

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|--|--|
| Adams, Emma L., Ln. P. L., Plainfield, N. J. | Anderson, Edwin H., Ln. Carnegie L., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Trustee Carnegie L., Braddock, Pa. |
| Adams, Sarah P., Cleveland, Ohio. | Andres, Lucie V., As. P. L., Cleveland, O. |
| Adler, Cyrus, Ln. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. | * Andrews, Clement W., Ln. John Crerar Library, Chicago. |
| * Ahern, Mary Eileen, Editor "Public Libraries," Chicago, Ill. | Atkinson, Mary B., As. P. L., Cleveland, O. |
| Allen, Sylvia M., Issue Clerk P. L., St. Louis, Mo. | Bain, James, Jr., Ln. P. L., Toronto, Canada. |
| Althoff, Minnie E., As. P. L., Dayton, Ohio. | Baker, Charlotte A., Classifier P. L., Denver, Col. |
| Ambrose, Lodilla, As. Ln. Northwestern Univ., Evanston, Ill. | |

- Baldwin, Martha, Trustee P. L., Birmingham, Mich.
- Bardwell, Willis A., Ln. Brooklyn Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- * Barnes, Elizabeth L., Order Dept. Carnegie L., Pittsburg, Pa.
- Bates, Helen C., As. P. L., Detroit, Mich.
- * Beach, M. Elizabeth, Ln. Jervis Library, Rome, N. Y.
- Beer, William, Ln. Howard Memorial Library, New Orleans, La.
- Benedict, Laura E. W., As. Lewis Institute, Chicago, Ill.
- Benton, Harvey S., Catalog Dept. P. L., Cleveland, O.
- Berry, Silas H., Ln. Y. M. C. A., Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Bicknell, Percy F., Ln. Univ. of Illinois, Champaign, Ill.
- * Biscoe, Ellen L., Albany, N. Y.
- * Biscoe, Walter S., Cat. Ln. N. Y. State Library, Albany, N. Y.
- Bishop, Frances A., As. Ln. P. L., Kansas City, Mo.
- Bishop, W: W., As. Ln. Garrett Biblical Inst., Evanston, Ill.
- * Blackwell, R. J., Ln. P. L., London, Ont.
- * Blair, Emma H., As. Wisconsin State Historical Soc'y Library, Madison, Wis.
- * Boardman, Alice, As. Ohio State Library, Columbus, Ohio.
- Boland, Frank T., Head Stenographer Univ. State of N. Y., Albany, N. Y.
- Bolton, C: K., Ln. P. L., Brookline, Mass.
- Bowerman, George F., Ln., Rochester, N. Y.
- Bowker, R: R., Editor LIBRARY JOURNAL; Trustee Brooklyn Library; Chairman Committee Brooklyn Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Bradley, Isaac S., Ln. State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.
- Bradley, Mrs. I. S., Madison, Wis.
- Brandegee, John E., Trustee P. L., Utica, N. Y.
- Brett, Mercy C., As. Ln. National Military Home, Ohio.
- * Brett, William H., Ln. P. L., Cleveland, Ohio.
- Brett, Mrs. W: H., Cleveland, Ohio.
- Briggs, Mary J., Cataloger F. P. L., Worcester, Mass.
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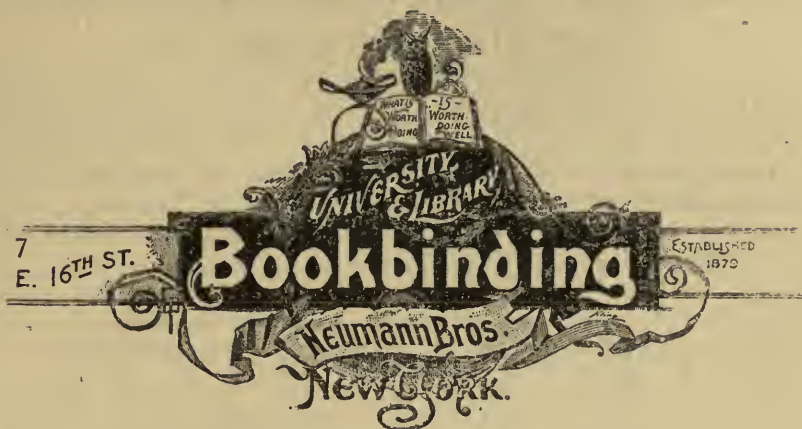
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The colon after an initial of a given name means that is the most common name beginning with that initial, e. g., A: means Augustus; B: Benjamin; C: Charles; D: David; E: Edward; F: Frederick; G: George; H: Henry; I: Isaac; J: John; K: Karl; L: Louis; M: Mark; N: Nicholas; O: Otto; P: Peter; R: Richard; S: Samuel; T: Thomas; V: Victor; W: William; C.: Charlotte; E.: Elizabeth; F.: Fanny; G.: Grace; H.: Helen; J.: Jane; K.: Katharine; Kate; L.: Louisa; M.: Mary; S.: Sarah; V.: Victoria.

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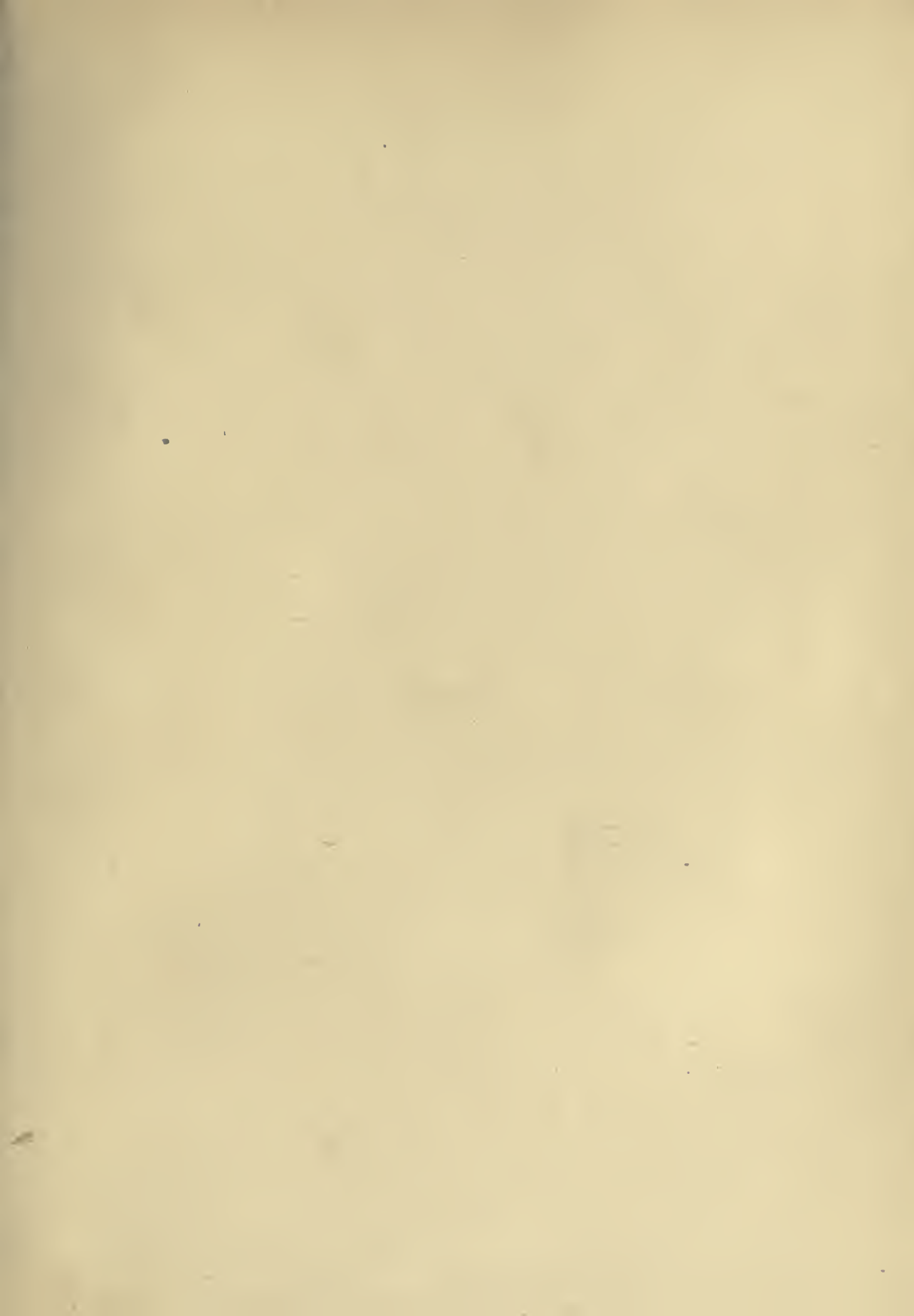
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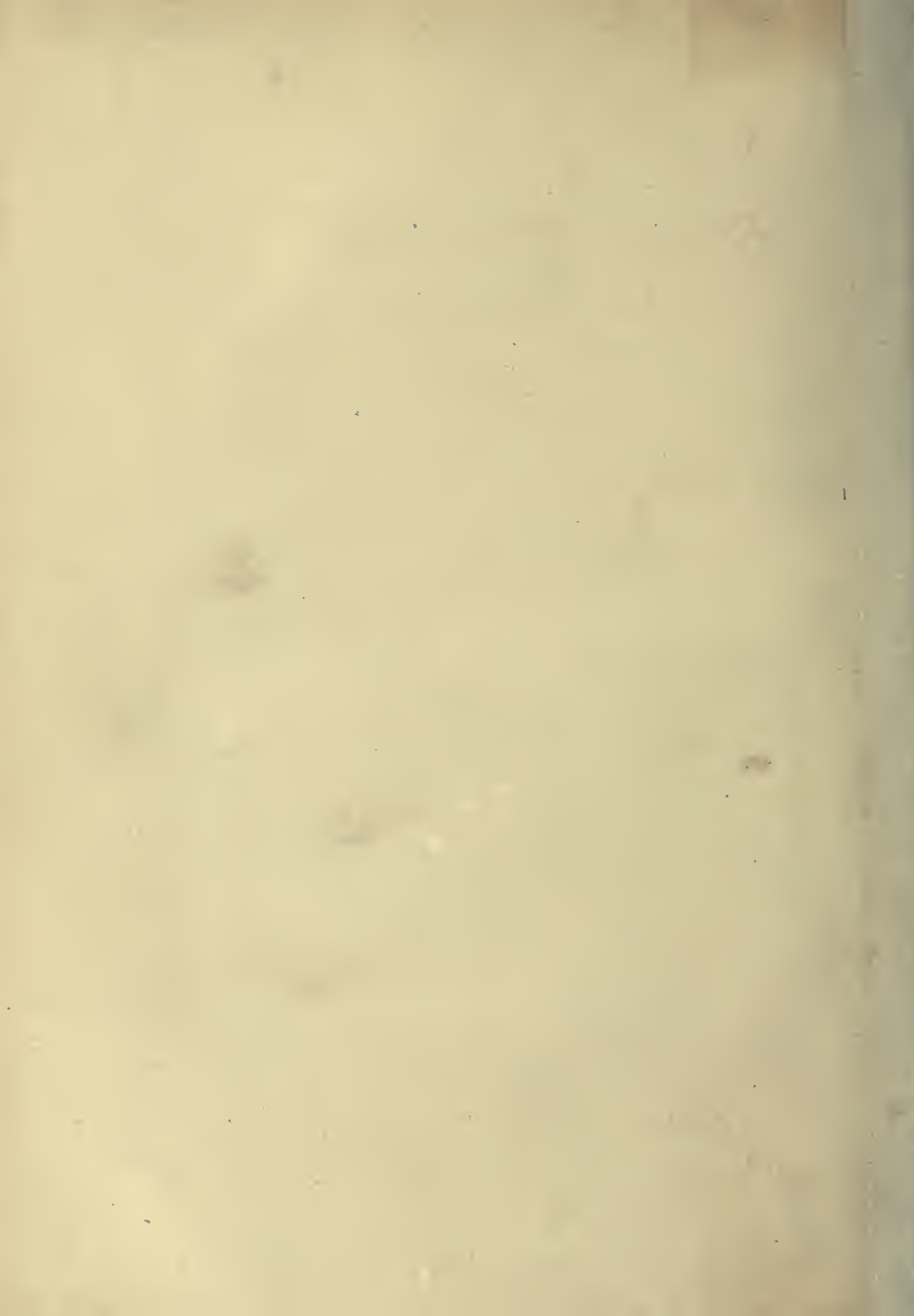
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